

B.A.R.

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'Peg's Place' Incident

Mayor, D.A. Fault Police Investigation

"I have asked the Chief for investigative reports and based on what I know I am not satisfied with the investigation thus far."

Mayor Dianne Feinstein

"I assumed the Chief would have assigned a vigorous investigation. I assumed that, but I will assure you I will never assume that again."

District Attorney Joseph Freitas

Under continuing attack for what appears to be police department "cover up" of what happened on the night of March 30 at Peg's Place bar, Police Chief Charles Gain is faced with his first major crisis with the Gay community.

Freitas explained in a meeting with Toklas Democratic Club officials this week that the police have the original jurisdiction in this type of investigation while his department investigates "white collar" crimes. However, Freitas and his staff have taken an aggressive hand in investigating the situation at Peg's.

Asst. D.A. Bob McCarthy has said that the police investigation was terribly inadequate; hence his department personally interviewed witnesses that the police investigation had totally overlooked.

The incident involved a partying group of allegedly intoxicated police officers attempting to enter the popular Lesbian bar following a "stag" affair for Officer Bernard Shaw, who two days later married Patty Hearst. Two officers and a civilian celebrant entered the bar and scuffles ensued involving Alene Levine, a volunteer employee, and owner Linda Symaco. Later, several uniformed officers arrived, the brief police report that resulted did not indicate what had transpired.

Attorney Tom Steel, representing the women, told B.A.R. that police made numerous violations of their regular procedures in order to "cover" for their partying off-duty friends: There were no arrests on the scene; no statements were taken from witnesses; an apparently intoxicated officer — Daniel Marr — was permitted to leave the scene (although he was accused of physically abusing a patron); no alcoholism tests

were administered; and the police report was "incredibly insufficient."

Marr and civilian Kevin Guerin have now been charged with battery and disturbing the peace — misdemeanors. Officer Michael Kelly, who allegedly wrestled Linda Symaco to the floor (hospitalizing her for 17 days) has not been charged. Freitas is seeking additional witnesses as he

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Michael Langlois, a young New York dancer, was imported to play Tasio in Benjamin Britten's opera DEATH IN VENICE. The blond beauty danced the role of the nemesis of the poet Aschenbach in Spring Opera's production of the Thomas Mann story. (Photo by Tony Plewik)

Historic Decision

CLUBS NOW LEGAL, D.A./OWNERS AGREE

A major test of what is "private" and what is "public" under the state's private, consensual sex law has been resolved in San Francisco. District Attorney Joseph Freitas has expressed his willingness to withdraw pending action against nine private clubs in the Gay community if a liberal agreement is signed with each club. Five businesses already cited have signed.

What is "private" under the state law? It is "private" if it is behind locked doors, away from the public. This was the contention of the club's attorneys from the start.

Basically, the clubs may continue to operate as they now do — with agreeable restrictions on activities that the clubs are not known to be involved in. There will be one noticeable change: membership theaters

will have to install buzz-in, locked doors at the entrances. Other private clubs and steam baths have such buzz-in doors already installed.

The agreement requires that clubs do not permit memberships to be transferred, omit any pornographic films involving children, permit no violence, disallow prostitution, keep the private area set apart by a locked door, and assure that privacy is maintained. It was formed by Freitas' staffer Kathleen Umrein in meetings conducted by Asst. D.A. Bob McCarthy with club owners and managers.

The new security for private clubs resulted from a letter sent to the Board of Supervisors in 1978 by Ray Broshears, a Tenderloin minister. Broshears had called upon the board to more

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Pride Seeks Stay

Gay Center Ordered to Close

By Bruce Pettit

The Pride Foundation has been given a "30-day notice" — until May 11 — to vacate 330 Grove Street, the former warehouse it converted into a thriving Gay Community Center. An eviction notice could follow.

The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency on April 11 served Pride with a formal "notice of possession" — that the Agency is reclaiming a site it owns and has allowed the non-profit corporation temporary access. The city plans to build a parking garage on the site which can be used by patrons of the Performing Arts Center, now under construction. Pride, for nearly a year, has kept those plans in suspension with lawsuits.

Pride president Paul Hardman has asked the Redevelopment board to reconsider this month's notice-serving. As he has since his social-services organization took occupancy in October 1976, Hardman still insists, "We have a contract." Furthermore, Hardman hopes the Agency can be convinced Pride needs only slightly more



Pride's Paul Hardman

time to find new quarters.

Gene Suttle, Redevelopment's area director for the Western Addition, declined comment on what prompted the notice at this time. "Hard-

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Inside B.A.R. This Issue

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- George Heymont passes Spring Opera in review p. 22

Pride's Center Gets A Notice

man has shown that he has no reluctance to use legal recourse and we do not discount he may use it again."

"This is not an eviction notice," Hardman points out. "They'd like to have us out of here, but it's not going to be that easy." Technically, an eviction notice would be filed after May 11 if the premises are not vacated as demanded. Tenants have five days to act on an eviction notice.

B.A.R. has learned of a probable factor in Redevelopment's timing: the city is highly confident of winning a motion in the Court of Appeals that would end Pride's legal attempt to block construction of the parking garage.



Pride has sued the city on grounds that the Board of Supervisors had no authority in 1977 to approve the sale of revenue bonds for the garage construction. Pride cited a city proposition passed by voters in November 1976 that required issuance of revenue bonds to be approved by taxpayers in elections. The city responded on the technicality that a differ-

ent type of bond was involved for the garage, and Superior Court Judge Ira Brown ruled against Pride last December. Pride indicated it would appeal, but the city now asks the Court of Appeals to drop the case on grounds that Pride is delinquent in following through.

HARDMAN'S SEARCH

Before securing the Grove Street site, Hardman made numerous attempts to interest other elements of the Gay community in purchasing a center. After being rebuffed by the Tavern Guild, which had been massing its own building fund, Hardman conceived of leasing from the city. With knowledge that 330 Grove was slated for a parking garage, he and Suttle struck a verbal agreement in October 1976 that Pride would vacate on a "30-day notice." As Suttle explained Redevelopment policy, "Until plans are ready for implementation, it is more desirable for good feelings in the neighborhoods to allow temporary use of facilities rather than tear them down."

However, Hardman entered 330 Grove and began preparing it for Pride before other tenants had moved out. Later Suttle countersigned a Hardman letter outlining Pride's plans — a document Hardman insists is his "contract" with Redevelopment. Hardman's Gay political rivals charged that Pride's occupancy was illegal, while some of his allies (but apparently not Hardman himself) allegedly threatened to picket and brand the city as anti-Gay if Pride were ever served a 30-day notice. Redevelopment in January 1977 ended its personal negotiations with Hardman and began instead direct contact with Pride's Board of Directors. In March, the Board passed a resolution promising to "quit, leave and abandon said premises in a timely and orderly fashion" if ever served a 30-day notice to vacate.

Subsequently, 330 Grove has been alive with nightly activities as many groups used it for meeting space. Hardman labored to upgrade the building and keep the center functioning. Constant activity in the structure gave powerful credence to Hardman's longstanding assertion that he was meeting a desperate need.

Even so, other Gay leaders knew the days of 330 Grove were numbered and felt obligated to find an alternative site. Mayor George Moscone, disturbed by the Pride center's early history, let out his private word that he would not assist efforts to secure funding for a new center that Pride would purchase. Thus, Supervisor Harvey Milk and others began plans in mid-1978 for a new managing entity — the Gay Community Services Center, Inc. — which was awarded local approval for \$375,000 in federal money last December. With federal approval pending, Pride has tried to block the project by contending the Community Development Board ignored Pride's earlier application.

FUTURE PLANS

Gay Center, Inc., in moves designed to make the proposal closer to federal requirements, has renamed itself the Harvey Milk Neighborhood Center. The group is further restructuring to attract wider community representation to its Board of Directors and is surveying what

neighborhood interests an HMNC could aid, according to co-chair Gwenn Craig. By such means the group has attempted to quell fears that funding would be lost because a "Gay center" does not meet a "neighborhood" classification — the only center of this type the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development can fund.

With the future of the Milk Center uncertain, the prospect of the Pride site's closing means San Francisco may be without a central meeting place for the first time since 1964 when the Society for Individual Rights established a center at 83 6th Street, now closed. Almost all Gay leaders here agree such a situation would be unacceptable for the city that has led the Gay liberation movement in the United States. Several groups will continue to meet in school auditoriums. Metropolitan Community Church will likely supply some of the demand for space when it occupies its recently purchased church at 150 Eureka Street in June.

Peg's Place Incident

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holds open the possibility of bringing charges against Kelly later.

The demand for Kelly's prosecution has been increased through reactions by the National Organization for Women and the city's Human Rights Commission.

Mary Spencer, President of NOW-San Francisco, issued a statement calling attention to the recent police recruitment drive that sought woman applicants for police positions. She said that such harassment by male officers indicates to many women that they are not welcome on the police force.

Human Rights Commissioner Phyllis Lyon told a press conference that the Peg's Place incident begins to unravel the friendly relationship that the Lesbian and Gay men's communities have attempted to maintain since the police raided a Gay dance at California Hall in 1965. She said, "We will never go back to those days again."

D.A. Freitas has told B.A.R. that he needs additional witnesses who were at Peg's before he can move further with his investigation. Witnesses may contact investigative staffer Michael Kish at 553-1048.

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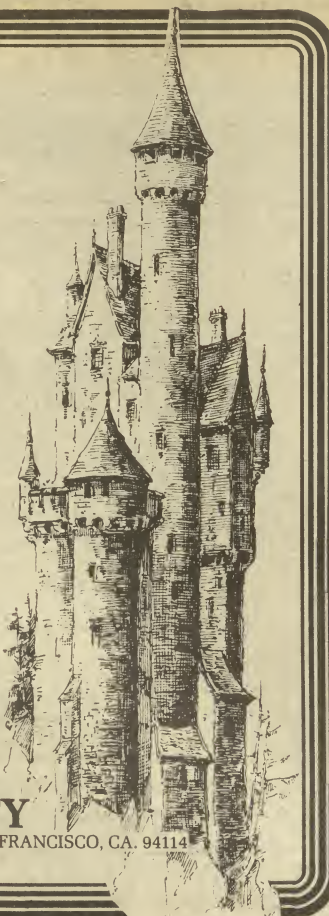
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Private Clubs Agreement

(Continued from Page 1)

strictly regulate the clubs. The letter was sent by a supervisor to the police department. Vice officers investigated the clubs and found considerable sexual activity. It was Freitas and Police Chief Charles Gain who then proceeded to close the clubs under a rarely used "red-light abatement" law that permits the courts to close a business if it is "lewd." There was considerable upheaval in the Gay community over the action. The club owners organized and retained attorneys.

All nine clubs will be asked to sign the agreement — five have signed. Each club has six months in which to comply, after which time the clubs could be cited. No club indicates at this time that it wishes to challenge the liberal stipulations proposed by Freitas.



District Attorney Joe Freitas

Do you carry keys from your belt? Does the ring contain a whistle?

Hundreds Sign Up

Gay Police Recruits Bring National Interest

Walter Cronkite told his CBS-TV nightly news viewers recently that there might be 200 Gay police officers as a result of the local recruitment effort in the Gay community by activist Les Morgan. He made the segment on the effort his final subject and added, as he always does, "That's the way it is."

Morgan indicates that the "200" figure might be an exaggeration. Over 350 Lesbians and Gay men indicated to Morgan that they are interested in being police officers, but it cannot yet be determined how many actually signed up. Morgan stresses, however, that possibly hundreds more in the Gay community may have submitted applications without contacting his office — when Police Chief Charles Gain made it clear publicly that he encouraged Gay people to join his department.

It appears, Morgan told B.A.R. this week, that the publicity on Gay recruits has just begun. A TV crew is coming to San Francisco from Canada to film a segment on the drive. Morgan has been interviewed by BBC, CBS, NBC and the Australian TV network. The sign-up date has passed, but Morgan continues to hold preparatory classes for recruits so that they might better understand the testing process that has begun — while reacting to media requests for interviews. He is delighted with a recent front-page article in the *Los Angeles Times* on the campaign and local coverage by KPIX-TV and the *San Francisco Examiner*.

B.A.R. has learned that the activist, who himself almost single-handedly made the recruitment of Gay cops an international issue, was the major financier of the \$600 effort. Over 18,000 leaflets and 200 posters were circulated locally urging "YOU" to become a police officer. Morgan is a former staff member of the former Sheriff Richard Hongisto and is employed as an elections analyst.

The support of Police Chief Charles Gain was a great encouragement, Morgan emphasizes. He explains, "Every police department in the United States, except this one, by one means or another basically refuses to hire Gay people and will fire them if they are detected. Most Gay people in this country think they're not even eligible to be police officers. And in most places, as a practical matter, they're not."

Chief Gain first announced that he welcomed Gay police officers in January, 1976, after he was appointed by the late Mayor George Moscone. He told B.A.R. at that time he also

encouraged Gay cops to "come out" and said he would support them. None did.

The reaction to the possibility of Gay recruitment was mixed.



L.A.'s Chief Daryl Gates

Former Los Angeles police chief Ed Davis expressed fear of "what would happen" in the police station locker rooms if there were Gay officers. The current L.A. chief, Daryl Gates, told the *Times*, "I don't take lessons from San Francisco. I do not think a person's sexual preference should be a consideration in hiring — but I don't want them to display it. That could cause problems."

Bob Barry, president of the 1,400 member Police Officers Association in San Francisco, expressed caution. He told B.A.R. (March 15): "I think that 'coming out' would not be wise in the department at this time. It would be asking for more problems than it's worth." Barry added that he knew several Gay officers now

on the force and that they "don't see any point in making an issue out of it."

The International Association of Chiefs of Police has opposed the recruitment of homosexuals as officers. One official told the *Times* "a policeman should conduct his private life so that the public will regard him as an example of stability, fidelity and morality." Morgan will debate the president of the association in Pittsburgh this month.

Morgan believes that the fear that some officers express will be lessened when the Gay cops, like the ones already on the force, "demonstrate that they are normal human beings who can do the job." He adds, "The recruitment effort in the Gay community has been misunderstood by some people. We are not trying to get people on the force or those coming into the department to 'come out.' We are not trying to politicize the department."

How many Lesbians and Gay men will there be on the local police department in the future? It is impossible to predict. Of the 7,400 citywide applicants, only 3,300 took the tests. If there are several hundred Gay applicants, it will be better determined in August when the qualifying list is released how many are Gay. Meanwhile, all Gay applicants are being urged to contact Morgan and to participate in the informational classes to help potential officers. His telephone numbers are 921-4987 or 775-1000.

Private Clubs Agreement

District Attorney Joseph Freitas has called for private, membership clubs to sign this agreement in order to avoid closing under the redlight abatement act. Five clubs facing closure earlier have signed the agreement and several others who wish to remain in operation will be asked to sign it.

The defendant hereby agrees to establish the following conditions for the operation:

- All individuals (except guests accompanied by members) admitted to the club shall be members and shall comply with the rules of the club, including those made part of this stipulation regarding judgment;
- No one under 18 years of age will be admitted to the area of the club restricted to the use of members;
- All memberships to the club are non-transferable;
- No prostitution is to be allowed on the premises;
- No pornographic movies involving prepubescent minors (so-called kiddy porn) shall be shown anywhere on the premises;
- No acts of violence shall be committed on the premises;
- The public area of the club shall be set apart from the area restricted to members by a locked door;
- The premises shall be conducted in such a way as to insure the privacy of those individuals using the private areas of the club.

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HAVE A GREAT DAY

Dan White Trial May Involve Gays

Former Supervisor Dan White is entering the first phase of his trial for the slayings of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk on November 27, 1978. It may be that a full discussion of the role of Gay people in San Francisco politics will be part of the defense if White attempts to prove that he was temporarily insane.

White had consistently opposed Gay rights while on the Board of Supervisors. White killed Moscone and Milk, who were the two major advocates of Gay rights in city politics. In his 1977 election campaign literature White had stated, "I will not be run out of San Francisco by social deviates."

A psychiatrist, Dr. Roland Levy, states that in an interview with White the former Supervisor said he felt it was his duty to "straighten out corruption" in the city and that "he was stymied every time he tried to do anything and to represent what he considered the will of the people against small pressure groups." Earlier, police inspector Frank Falzon told the court during a preliminary hearing that White had confessed the murders shortly after he was arrested.

White could receive the death penalty under the provi-

sions of Proposition 7 (authored by Sen. John Briggs) which the voters approved in November. Death awaits White if it can be proved in court that he killed in retaliation for or to prevent a public official's performance of his duty. The accused allegedly said in his "confession" that he killed Moscone and Milk because they both opposed his reappointment as Supervisor, following his earlier resignation.

B.A.R. will be closely reporting the trial as it progresses — from a Gay perspective.

Gay Deaf Beat Hollywood

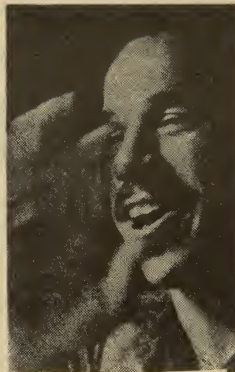
Local Gay deaf activists shared a victory this month when the sentimental M.G.M. film VOICES was pulled after a short run at a local theater. Over 50 Gay deaf persons, active in the local Gay deaf group, Rainbow Deaf Society, marched at the theater with Supervisor Harry Britt — leaving the theater empty inside.

Al Walla, a Gay deaf leader, found himself in a four-column photograph on the front page of the *San Francisco Examiner* and in the center of controversy when the film was quickly replaced by HAROLD AND MAUDE.

The controversy over VOICES began during its filming earlier in the year when a

hearing person, Amy Irving, and other hearing people were cast in roles and the production of the film did not take deaf concerns into consideration.

Walla told B.A.R. that actress Irving does not sign often enough in the film to permit deaf people to understand it, that the extensive use of lip reading was a distortion of reality, and that deaf people could have been used instead of hearing people in the acting roles. The deaf, he explained, are just as sensitive to stereotyping about themselves as Gay people are. Another deaf representative added, "The movie perpetuates the myth that the deaf live in a lonely,



Al Walla

frustrated world — and that they act dumb."

Walla also reported that there are 50 active members in the local Rainbow Deaf Society and over 70 attend monthly social gatherings. He stated there are about 150 Gay deaf who are involved from time to time — "with most remaining closeted." The local society is in its seventh year.

The national convention for the Gay deaf groups will be in Ohio this year, but everyone is looking to 1980. Walla explains, because the convention will probably be in San Francisco.

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Viewpoint

Flagellation — A Gay Disease

Gay men and women are so conditioned to the "outside-looking-in" way of thinking and living that almost any abuse is allowed to pass unchallenged. Early on we turned inward unto ourselves as a respite from the never-ending oppression for being different — in some terrible way. Few of us have overcome the shame poisoned into us at an early age.

Harvey Milk, an extraordinary man, overcame the stigma. And like Moses he began leading Gay people out of the wilderness. He was fearless, he was competent, he was succeeding. And to the increasing dismay and fright of main-streeters the likes of Dianne Feinstein and her protegee Dan White, he had overreached himself. He was giving the city away to the hordes of sexual barbarians.

What happened to Harvey is not surprising. Nor, unfortunately, is it surprising we Gays can so readily accept what happened to him as a matter of course. Fags and dykes are forever being eliminated — without regret, without notice, without justice. The Moscone heirs will receive a small fortune, and yet Harvey's brothers and sisters have received naught but harassment and curtailment of their freedoms since his death.

What major public figure — since Harvey's funerals — has come forth to champion what he stood for? Who has assured the Gay community that assassination will not only not be tolerated but will not reap dividends? On the contrary, we are treated to a whitewash of his executioner and the indignity of a public subscription for the assassin's family. (When in recent history has there been a comparable indecency?)

We are so whipped by our own abasement that when old-school columnist McCabe regrets that in some quarters (with a warped love that dares not speak its name) Dan White is a hero, we fall into disarray and beat our breasts in futility.

We have heard the Moscone understudy say she will not be ruled from the grave. The very graves that catapulted her into fame and fashion and fortune. Ten slugs transformed a political "has been" into an All-American sweetheart. On Harvey's ashes today rises a Barbi doll with vice-presidential yearnings. And we accept it as a matter of course.

P. Lorch

Letters...

BRITT NO SPOKESMAN

★ Harry Britt does not speak for all of us. Perhaps not for ANY of us, since no one elected him.

There is a lot of San Francisco outside District 5, and a lot of us live there. For myself, I resent this man taking the liberty of speaking for me, or for my neighborhood.

Don't do us any favors we didn't ask for, Harry. McCabe and Gain in their different capacities are two of the most valued friends of the Gay population in this city, but that's not really the point.

It's not Britt's viewpoint that enflames me (although I disagree with it), it is his presumption in speaking for all of us.

Harry owes us all an apology. By "all" I mean the Gay population, McCabe and the Chronicle, and the Chief of Police.

Jerry Read
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NEEDS IN DISTRICT 5

★ It is not too early to begin the search for a candidate for District 5 to effectively represent the moderate interests of the people of the district. Some of the qualities of such a candidate and what he/she strive for are:

1. Providing jobs. Many newcomers are migrating to S.F. and these people need jobs if they are to remain as a positive force in S.F.

2. More police protection in ALL neighborhoods and prosecution of perpetrators of violence. Why not police decoys in the Mission to gain evidence against those punks who attack? Use the vice squad as decoys!!!!

3. Housing policies of the city are deplorable. Vacant land in the Western Addition, and underused land around Potrero Hill, are ripe for development but who can untangle the threads of the bureaucracy. Try it!

4. Castro Street has been downzoned without public hearings. The Castro needs more services not only for the locals but for the greater Bay Area Gays whom the Castro serves. The city needs to encourage neighborhood business development.

5. Middle income people are being deprived of their right to purchase their own property by unfair limits on condo conversions. The very rich and the very poor can afford the luxury of being tenants forever. The middle class needs the security of their own home when they reach those senior years. Especially in this city which has a serious lack of any housing for the elderly.

6. Along with rent stabilization to protect rights of tenants, we need protection to owners whose tenants vacate without paying rents. Present court system lets tenants off with no enforcement of one's duty to pay rent.

7. Stop coddling those groups who commit violent acts against us. Perhaps the city is not the proper place for families to be encouraged to live. Perhaps the city would benefit tax-wise from closing down more schools. End forced busing.

8. Lastly, being Gay is not a requirement for being Supervisor of District 5. We should not discriminate against heterosexuals simply because of past discrimination. If Milton Marks were running for Supervisor would you not vote for him because he wasn't Gay?

Richard Zalenski
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THE PUNISHMENT OF DAN WHITE

★ There is much that is true in Charles McCabe's recent inflammatory column entitled "Milk, Moscone." One of the truths is that in the lawyers' attempt to save White's life no holds will be barred: McCabe is correct that certain unmentionable factors in San Francisco's political scene will be dwelt upon. If we wish to ensure the maximum punishment for this criminal, we must examine the implications of these factors. When we do, I think they will be shown to argue for a severer punishment rather than the reverse.

First, let us admit that we Gays are, in fact, mounting an invasion of San Francisco. We are recognizing and acting on the fact that our hope of achieving a pleasant and non-oppressive living environment is dependent upon our achieving electoral majorities. Neighborhood by neighborhood we are taking over this city, and this invasion is progressing well despite the armed opposition of some (e.g. Dan White and Hillsborough's murderer). It is well known to all of us that the gut reaction of many heterosexuals towards us is one of hate. McCabe's declaration that White is a hero to many San Franciscans should come as no surprise.

It is this fact that makes the severity of White's punishment crucial. We Gays are working within the law to achieve our goal. The law must protect us in this regardless of how the city citizens view us. If the murders were merely the result of a macho's grudge for an alleged doublecross, the punishment would by rights concern us no more than other citizens. But when we recognize that it was purely an act of political terrorism directed against us, and further one that has popular support, the importance of the punishment's deterrent value is clear.

If White is shown mercy in the name of temporary insanity, this will be a message that anti-Gay terrorism is condoned — then when it comes to such acts as punk attacks, we will lack an alternative to vigilantism. Society owes it to itself as much as to us to provide us with an alternative.

Bruce Russell
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

CRIMINAL SEX & ERA

Two corrections to Priscilla Alexander's otherwise excellent column urging us not to patronize our oppressors, particularly Nevada: The accompanying chart incorrectly lists Massachusetts as having decriminalized consenting adult homosexual acts. Unfortunately, Chapter 272 of that state's General Laws — "Crimes against chastity, morality, decency and good order" — still prohibits "the abominable and detestable crime against nature" (sodomy, of course) and unnamed "unnatural and lascivious acts." And to her correlation between the defeat of Florida's ERA and the Dade County repeal, I must add that the four other cities that have repealed Gay rights ordinances — Boulder, Colorado (in 1974); St. Paul, Minnesota; Wichita, Kansas; and Eugene, Oregon — are all in states that have ratified the ERA.

John Kyper
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

SEX PREFERRED

★ I find in increasing numbers when referring to Gay rights, the term "sexual preference." The dictionary defines "preference" as "The power or opportunity of choosing." I don't feel I have ever had the "choice" of my sexuality. I simply am. Wouldn't it be more appropriate and logical when considering laws and ordinances demanding our equal rights to consider our sexuality as "sexual orientation" or some better term other than "preference"? Anita Bryant says we have the choice to be Gay or not to be Gay, and we all know that is incorrect. How about eliminating the phrase "sexual preference" in all future writing? Thank you.

Dean Tomich
San Jose

Letters...

SAN FRANCISCO GAY CRISIS

★ The mad rush of intertwining events beginning with the NO ON 6 "victory" in early November seems to be pushing the Gay community into a deep crisis of conscience. In fact, many of us are being forced to stop and ask some serious questions about the future of our community and, indeed, of this city.

In the almost ten fast years since Stonewall, we have watched the blush of economic security wax ever rosier for more and more Gay men (especially those of the "clone" genre), just as economic growth (i.e. that great spectre Speculation riding hand-in-hand with the Advocate lifestyle of conspicuous Gay consumption) is further escalating the pretty face-lift that is now wreaking havoc here in several working-class neighborhoods. Meanwhile, a dark homophobic cloud of fear and loathing has fallen across this landscape, and even Charles McCabe must finally gloatingly acknowledge this "Gay invasion" in order to somehow justify Dan White's motivations.

But what am I so loftily and carefully trying to say except that the wolf is knocking at the door. The little fantasy merry-go-round called Fagorama is lurching to a halt; the fabulous glittery patina is wearing rather thin around the edges. And somehow the magic is dying. Clones are boring; sex is alienating; disco sucks; and these body-builders are becoming ridiculous silly-putty parodies of straight men. And rents are double-too high, jobs much scarcer, inflation creeping ever insidiously, while anti-Gay madness is rising on a crest of very real social resentment (and always the homophobia).

It is time to start putting our house in order. Indeed, it is time to take a stand, to identify our real enemies, even those among us. (Yes, Virginia, even Gay people are not exempt from the human follies of greed, dishonesty, and cynical opportunism.) A "Gay speculator" is a pig first and Gay only incidentally — playing the same deadly bullshit games with the same big fat bucks now dangled so tantalizingly around us by the same moneyed interests of capital finance (e.g. the banks that underwrite the loans that are used to rebuy the buildings). In fact, we are right now being quickly "destabilized" right out of this city (now that the block-busting and clean-up are almost completed) all according to game-plan. Who among us is not already wondering where else there is to go, only to darkly suspect that there is no place else left.

And which side are you on, boy
Which side are you on?

J. DeJoyeuse
San Francisco

(ED. NOTE: Congratulations on a brilliantly written analysis.)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MAYOR IS BEHIND HARASSMENT

★ Everyone in the Gay community bemoans the increase in harassment. Now is definitely NOT the time for bitterness. It is, instead, again time for the Gay community to again pull together to solve this problem.

Remember, Harvey Milk said repeatedly that the defeat of Prop. 6 was just the beginning of the struggle. In San Francisco, we are unfortunately "blessed" with a Mayor who is trying to impose HER prudish moral standards on OUR community. How dare she claim that she has nothing to do with the recent increase in police harassment against Gays. The Gay community knows that the Chief of Police is a city employee working to carry out the Mayor's wishes. Violence against anyone is morally wrong. It is my fondest hope that members of the Gay community remember this harassment when a Mayor is next elected.

Herb Levy
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

GAY DEMOS TEAM WITH SOCIALISTS

★ The Bay Area Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee is co-sponsoring an event which will be of interest to all politically active people in the Gay community. The other co-sponsors are the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club Steering Committee and the San Francisco Socialist School.

The event is a panel discussion entitled "Working Together: Gays and Democratic Socialists." The discussion will focus on problems of Gay oppression, the place of progressive straights in the Gay movement, and the need for Gay activists to join in the wider political struggle for an end to all forms of discrimination, for full employment, and for an end to the corporate domination of our political system.

"Working Together" will be held on Thursday, April 26, 7:30pm, at the San Francisco Socialist School, 777 Valencia Street.

David Roth
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

GAY POWER

★ It's about time the Gay community began to exercise its muscle in this town.

If our growing numbers move us from a minority status to majority status, why is not our presence reflected in high places of power and decision making?

Thank you, B.A.R. and editor Lorch, for giving direction to this new awareness. The accepting crumbs days are over. Dianne Feinstein, the supreme mistress of the crumb-dispensing philosophy, will probably pass the whole cake under our noses, just before election day — only to take it away (as has been done again and again) should she get back in office.

Leo Beck
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"SUPPORT BEGINS AT HOME"

(Reply to ERA Nevada Boycott column)

★ A businessperson operates, promotes and merchandises their products or services in the manner which is most beneficial for their purposes. That is one of the gratuities derived from owning one's own business, or it could be called "freedom."

As my business is small, I look for unusual promotions which will catch any eye and increase desire to buy. Last year, a Las Vegas advertising firm offered a promo package which was spectacular and reasonable. The thought of an ERA boycott did not enter my mind. So, I bought the package (i.e. 3 days & 2 nights in Las Vegas for two with the purchase of any waterbed — inexpensive — over \$299.95). It looked like salvation for my ailing business.

When the promotion was needed most, an ad was made up and an attempt made to place it in another Bay Area Gay paper. The ad was refused and reference made to the boycott. So, I called B.A.R. and they claimed that they were non-political; yes, they would run the ad. Please note that Dave's Reno resort also advertises without censure. The ad that was run in the subject issue was made for a San Jose paper, not San Francisco, and did contain the street address but not the city (San Jose). Result: no bed sold, no vacation certificates given. This equals a continuing ailing business plus a monetary loss.

Since opening Nautical Experience, there has been a standing advertised 15% discount to anyone in the community or those who mention B.A.R. and Lambda. To date, there have been seven (7) beds sold. Five to gals and two to guys — bless them all. As 95% of my business is straight, I am anticipating withdrawing all advertising and support from the Gay community.

If the Gay and Lesbian communities cannot or will not support their own kind, tell me, why should my business support them?

Tom Lewis
Nautical Experience
San Jose

ED. NOTE: It seems Priscilla Alexander's major objection was that the ad appeared on the same page as her column, to suggest an insensitivity on the part of our layout people. The opinions of B.A.R. columnists are not necessarily those of the paper's management.)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

APRIL FOOLS — NO GREAT OUTDOORS

★ As I am sure most members are now aware, Great Outdoors, the camping organization, has folded up, and the much publicized April outing did not take place. Hopefully, the people involved with the organization will make good on any money members have made to G.O.

It is really too bad that Great Outdoors failed, as it was a great idea for the Gay community. I think one of the reasons was the scheduling of camping trips during the winter months when attendance would naturally be low.

There was, however, a group of individuals interested enough in camping outings to join up with G.O. in the first place. I would appreciate hearing from them or anyone else interested in forming a group of campers for further outings. This would be strictly a pay-your-own-way setup, but we could exchange names and contact each other to plan trips. Please write or call Paul at 863-9489 (eves).

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Compromise in Motion

Britt May Drop Castro Bar Moratorium

By Bruce Pettit

Supervisor Harry Britt is prepared to drop the proposed two-year halt in new bar/cabaret/restaurant permits for Castro Village that he introduced to the Board of Supervisors in February. His condition is that some compromise solution, currently being developed by area merchants

and residents, must eventually be approved by the City Planning Commission.

Merchants and residents within two months expect to present the Planning Commission with their joint proposal of a "special use district" designation for the area bordered by Diamond, Hartford, 17th and 19th Streets. "Special use" is the term that, for a particular area of the city, institutes specially-drafted regulations for its development which augment the standard zoning ordinances.

Both Britt and the Eureka Valley Promotion Association (EVPA) now say that the moratorium idea all along had been a device to expedite a solution to a problem that otherwise may have been indefinitely suspended.

Residents — represented by EVPA — initiated the proposed halt in new permits last year with the late Supervisor Harvey Milk. They maintained the area is "saturated" with entertainment spots — at least insofar as there are enough establishments for area residents. Because merchants direct their marketing concerns to a much larger patronage, claimed former EVPA president Lee Mentley, customers are attracted from throughout the Bay Area and consequently deprive residents of scarce parking spaces.

Official introduction of the proposed moratorium inspired the Eureka Valley Merchants Association to move against it. President Ernie Asten laid the burden of proof of "saturation" on the residents. He said, "No one has a Master Plan for the area, so no one has a basis for declaring what 'enough' means. Our resident bars and restaurants are always full. Only an open market can determine need." Asten furthermore said that no surveys existed (in February) to show who owns most of the parked cars, but his guess — opposite EVPA's — was that the majority of cars belong to Castro Village residents. "Our area has changed from low-income families to a large element of affluent singles who share rentals. That means a lot more owners are living here."

Nevertheless, Asten and the merchants found, he says, "strong support in the neighborhood for the moratorium — but only if it were the only way." Thus they began working directly with the residents for a compromise.

The format of the proposed Union Street "special use district" was adopted by both merchants and residents as a work-

ing model for Castro. They jointly started surveys — now nearly complete — for statistics on present commercial vs. residential usage of Castro buildings. From those results the two groups hope to reach agreement on ideal — or tolerable — future-use proportions. The groups would then recommend to the Planning Commission that commercial permits be unrestricted up to that proportion of available space. Afterwards, businesses that close would be replaced on a one-for-one basis. Public hearings could still permit exceptions under special circumstances.

Jude Laspa, chair of the EVPA's planning committee, says his residential group is still supportive of the proposed moratorium — and insists it will be revived if joint agreement fails. Like Asten, Laspa agrees that both sides are now negotiating in good faith and can go to the Planning Commission shortly with a single proposal.

Laspa explained, "We still feel a need for strong controls on usage. But we realize the moratorium would freeze everything. There was opposition from the merchants, and we were willing to find a more desirable approach. So we joined them in a parallel move to find agreement that can both meet their needs and also satisfy the residents."

Local Hearing - May 2

Nude State Beaches Possible - Briggs Protests

SACRAMENTO

"Optional clothing" areas could be established on eight state-owned beaches under a proposed plan from the state Parks and Recreation Department. Three public hearings on the merits of such a proposal are now being held. The first hearing was in Sacramento on April 25. The second will be in Los Angeles on April 30 and the third is in San Francisco on May 2.

State Senator John Briggs (R-Orange County) has called for Parks Director Russell Cahill to "see a psychiatrist" or "get a job as an usher in an X-rated movie house if he wants to see nudes" for suggesting such a plan. Cahill responded, "Briggs has dodged the issue. The question is, does the public have a right to be heard on this issue?"

Church leaders in Fresno immediately protested, as one of the beaches being considered

was nearby Millerton Lake. The beach there has been frequented by nude bathers for some years with few complaints from the public. The police have not made arrests unless there are specific complaints.

Public nudity is a violation of state law; hence, Briggs' argument is not without basis. The senator said, "It is a crime to expose oneself in public and being in a state park doesn't make it any less a crime."

Proposed "nude" Northern California beaches, other than Millerton Lake, would be Pomponio State Beach in San Mateo County; Red Rock Beach, Mountain Tamalpais State Park, Marin County; and an undetermined beach in the Auburn-Folsom project in El Dorado, Placer or Sacramento counties.

Nude sun bathing is practiced in several Northern California beaches, including the state beaches mentioned above. The legality of the nudity is questionable, even on private beaches, but police arrests are rare. Popular nude areas in San Francisco are at



John Briggs: 'No Nudity'

Land's End and Fort Funston beaches (government property). San Mateo County has Devil's Slide (Eden Rock Cove), five miles south of Pacifica on Highway 1 (look for a large American flag marker) and at San Gregorio, where there is a \$1 admission charge. San Gregorio is near the junction of Highways 1 and 84, just north of San Gregorio State Beach. The latter two beaches are privately owned.

Hundreds of Lesbians and Gay men frequent the nude beaches on sunny days and sexual activity is not unknown. Frequently, special "Gay male" sections exist. Stiff penalties for police arrests for mere nudity (not sexual activity) are rare, although fines can range up to \$500. Usually there is a \$5-\$10 "disturbing the peace" fine.

The San Francisco hearing on the state beach proposal on May 2 will be in the California State Building in the Civic Center (455 Golden Gate Avenue) at 1:00pm. The public may speak at the hearing...GM

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Hollywood Crackdown

HUSTLERS SHIFT TO SANTA MONICA BLVD.

HOLLYWOOD

A crackdown on street prostitution has resulted in many hustlers moving their operation from Selma and Highland Streets to Santa Monica Boulevard, west of Highland. This places the car-cruising action in county territory and out of the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Taking an emphatic moral

stand against prostitution, Councilwoman Peggy Stevenson has attacked City Attorney Burt Pines for his alleged reluctance to prosecute prostitution cases. Both Stevenson and Pines have received broad support in the Gay community here in the past.

Stevenson recently held a press conference with police officials and said, "We are here to notify everyone that illegal activity on the streets of Hollywood is not going to be tolerated. We will put up with this no longer." (Hollywood's Ramparts police station has been the subject of repeated demonstrations and protests from Gay activists over the years.)

Stevenson was joined by the assistant Vice Squad commander, Joseph Gunn. Gunn attacked Pines for his strict guidelines on how police must make arrests and how they must be documented before he will prosecute alleged offenders. The official said that Pines' refusal to relax his guidelines "encourages these types to come to Hollywood." He demanded a mandatory jail sentence for anyone convicted on the first offense, rather than the usual \$200-\$250 fine.

Pines replied to Stevenson's attack. He produced statistics indicating that 90% of all police

many years. This is also in Stevenson's district.

Stevenson, a frequent supporter of Gay causes, has been often introduced at Metropolitan Community Church services in Los Angeles and was open in her attack on the anti-Gay Proposition 6 last year. Many Gay people have worked in her election campaigns. She is currently working on projects that would benefit Gay people.

A Los Angeles Gay activist, who did not wish to be named, told B.A.R., "We have to live with Peggy Stevenson. She represents the largest Gay community south of San Francisco. We have to deal with her carefully. It is a tight-wire walking act. She is the Dianne Feinstein of Los Angeles — puritanical but also a good friend when we need her."

L.A. Hetero Sex Club Approved

LOS ANGELES

City Attorney Burt Pines has refused to prosecute 17 members of a heterosexual sex club, Plato's Retreat, after a police raid. Thirty officers entered the business on March 23 and charged the accused with lewd conduct in a public place and the club itself for permitting dancing and the use of pinball machines without permits.

"You have a group of consenting adults and the sexual activity was in a semiprivate situation. We are not going to file lewd conduct charges against these people," Asst. City Atty. Kathy Vale stated.

A similar situation existed in San Francisco recently when the police and district attorney moved to close private sex clubs. An agreement has now been reached to allow such clubs to continue.

Pines has been under considerable criticism recently for demanding that the police not arrest prostitutes unless they have followed strict, legal procedures and for his refusal to prosecute in the Plato's Retreat case. The attorney has enjoyed wide support in the Gay community here for his continuing stand that police must not use their powers to harass homosexuals.

Pines contends that Plato's Retreat is not public but a private business. In being private, he contends, it enjoys the protections under the current state law that permits private, consensual behavior.

The club owner is attempting to reopen, claiming that as a private club he did not have to have the various permits to operate a dance floor and game machines.

'Gays & Police' Public Raps Set

Gay people will have two opportunities in May to address Gay/police relations directly with members of the San Francisco Police Department.

The new Charter Revision Commission will receive public and staff testimony Tuesday, May 8, on how a revised City Charter might more exactly define and regulate the functions of the Police and Sheriff's departments and the District Attorney's office. Commissioner Frank Fitch, an upfront Gay, believes he scored a coup in convincing the Commission to schedule this particular hearing in the center of Gay concentration in San Francisco. The meeting is set for 7:00pm at Trinity Methodist Church at Noe/Market/16th Streets.

Bob Barry, president of the 1,400-member Police Officers Association, and Earl Sanders of the primarily black Officers for Justice will be guest speakers Monday, May 14, at the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club. A 6:30pm potluck dinner will precede the 7:30pm meeting at Dove Hall, 18th & Valencia.

Oregon May Get Gay Housing Bill

SALEM, Oregon

An omnibus rights bill that would have given broad guarantees of equality to homosexuals may be amended in a House committee here in order to get the necessary 5 of 9 votes to move the measure to a floor vote. The new version would be only a housing bill.

"It doesn't matter what the bill is," Executive Director Carol Goodman of the Portland Town Council told B.A.R. He said the major concern of Oregon activists is to get a House vote so it can be determined where there is support.

Goodman said there has been extensive lobbying against the bill and similar legislation from fundamentalistic Christian groups.

Fundamental groups have lobbied against the legislation. They were evident at a 4-hour hearing before the House Judiciary Committee. Goodman said that the necessary fifth vote (5 out of 9) to pass the omnibus bill could not be achieved unless it was limited to housing. The vote of the committee will be at a later date.

In an earlier hearing before the Senate Aging & Minority Affairs Committee, a bill to prohibit discrimination against Gay state employees died with a 4-1 move to "table." Goodman said that the one Yes vote was by Sen. Bill McCoy (D-Portland) who is a married, black Catholic and the only on-the-record senator who believes in Gay rights.

The chair of the Senate committee, Sen. Jan Wyers (D-Portland) was surprised by a protest demonstration organized by the Town Council after the vote. Wyers is a liberal on most issues but opposed the Gay rights measure... GM

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L.A. City Attorney Burt Pines

requests for prosecution of prostitutes are prosecuted. He added that his department had a 94% conviction rate.

Stevenson has taken a position against Plato's Retreat, allegedly a heterosexual sex club, that was raided by the police. She has called upon Pines to prosecute the patrons arrested at the business. "I wanted it settled and right now," she told Pines.

Arrests have also increased in the bushes of Griffith Park where some Gay people have enjoyed sexual encounters for

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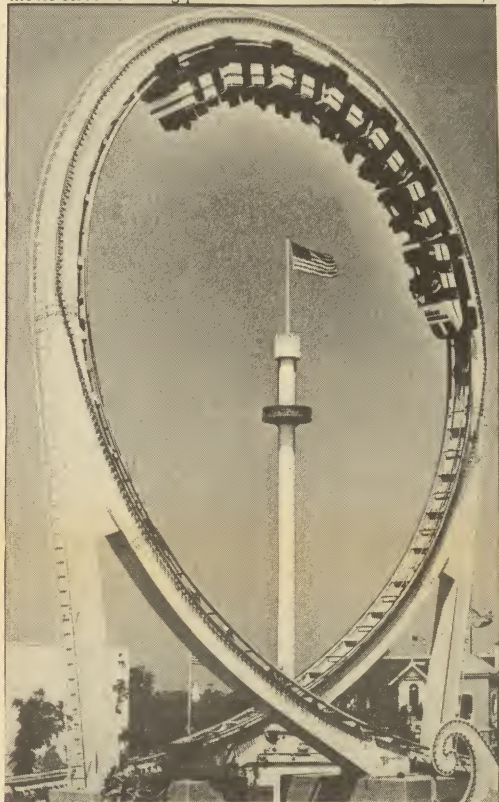
Great America 'Night' Sales Are Brisk

Thousands of Bay Area residents are purchasing tickets to "Gay Night" at Great America, set for Friday, May 4, at the San Jose area park.

Gay discos for dancing have been added to the other productions — several elaborate stage shows and a giant movie screen showing plus the

Ticketron and BASS outlets. No tickets will be sold at the gate. This is done to assure the privacy of the event.

Some controversy has been raised over the event by Charles Morris, publisher of *The Sentinel* newspaper. He insists that Gay people not attend the event because Willard Marriott, a major stockholder in Marriott Hotels — owners of Great America — is a Mormon. The Mormon Church is anti-Gay. Morris contends that if a Gay person attends the event he "contributes to his own oppression." Morris has not told his readers that the Lambda Association, a



Marriott's Great America will be the scene of a Gay Gala. Over 25,000 are expected May 4 at the Santa Clara amusement park.

usual (and unusual) 23 rides. Restaurants and snack bars will be open and beer will be sold.

Local Gay businesses are lining up buses for the 25,000 people expected to attend. Earlier Gay "nights" in Southern California drew 16,000 to Disneyland and 20,000 to Magic Mountain.

Ticket sales have skyrocketed, according to Fun Productions' Scott Forbes (Studio One - Los Angeles) and Carol Taylor, a founder of the Lambda Association of Santa Clara County. Advance publicity in B.A.R., word-of-mouth enthusiasm, and a major story on the front page of the *San Francisco Examiner* have made the event a possible sell-out. Tickets (\$8) are \$1.75 less than the usual admission price. The one ticket admits the purchaser to all rides and the elaborate stage productions.

Forbes warns the Gay community that all tickets must be purchased in advance — at

San Jose-based group, will benefit by several thousand dollars if the event is a success and that Great America hasn't had one case of discrimination filed against it on the basis of sexual orientation. John Poimiroo, a Marriott official, has told B.A.R., "If you have someone who is doing a good job, who cares what the person is doing in their private life?" The San Francisco costume designer for Marriott Hotels' hotels and parks, Pat Compano, told B.A.R. that he is convinced that Marriott does not discriminate against Gay people.

Earlier Fun Productions events have brought the Gay Community Services Center of Los Angeles its largest single contribution — \$12,000.

**The life you save
may if attacked be
your own — blow
your whistle!**



The Village People — who gave disco a Gay face — have now offended the U.S. Navy.

Navy Rejects Village People's Song

SAN DIEGO

Village People, which disturbed executives of the Young Men's Christian Association with its earlier recording "YMCA" is now frowned upon by the U.S. Navy over its latest hit, "In the Navy." Both songs had sexual implications to the Gay community.

U.S. Navy officials had decided to use "In the Navy" in its recruiting program until they evidently became aware of People's large Gay following. The group had agreed to let the Navy use the song in exchange for permission to use the frigate *Reasoner* for a TV commercial filming.

The Navy 'has now announced that due to "budgetary and coordinating requirements" the deal is off. One military official denied that the fact that the group has a sizable Gay following was a consideration. Whether the group itself is Gay or partially Gay is the subject of much discussion.



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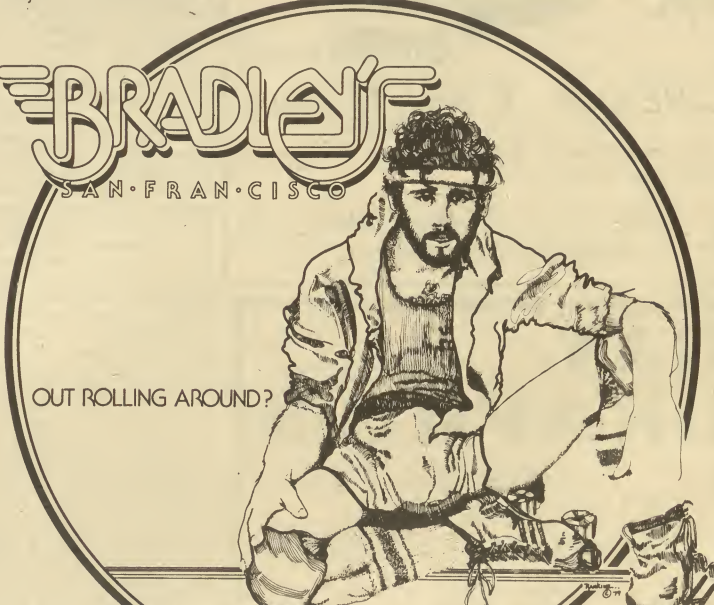
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Politics & People

Politics & Poker...

Wayne Friday

Now that Ben Tom has said no to a race against John Molinari in District 3, Charter Commission Chairperson Wilson Chang being urged to take on the popular and hard-working Supe... and in District 11, it looks as though John Bardis will be the main contender against Ron Pelosi (although a well-known female activist from a prominent family is be-

ing urged to run in that District — meanwhile, rumors persist that Pelosi, with the worst attendance record on the Board, may retire this year... despite the ugly story in the recent *Bay Guardian* on Joe Alioto, many of the former Mayor's friends insist that Alioto is definitely getting ready for another try at his old job... the Human Rights Commission minutes

show Reverend Drummer as "excused" from their recent meeting (that would be about right since Reverend Drummer died some time ago in the pulpit of his church on Divisadero... speaking of the HRC, Director Grant Mikens is reportedly under close scrutiny due to irregularities in his "contract compliance" practices (Commissioner William Coblenz blew the whistle on this one and Quentin Kopp is looking at it very closely)...

The propaganda sheet Kay Pachtner sent out announcing her candidacy for Supe in District 5 is a joke; Pachtner brags about her involvement in the campaigns against Props. 6 and 13, and most of those who worked against Briggs are hard pressed to remember a damned thing she did to help; as for the fight against Prop. 13, I seem to recall Pachtner walking out in a huff and deserting the No on 13 committee early in that campaign...

—Mel Swig's comment of the year came when the name of a local well-known attorney who fancies himself as political broker came up: "The guy actually makes payments on his Rolls Royce"... Mayor Feinstein's daughter Kathleen to be married in July; with the Mayor and Dick Blum to tie the knot sometime after that (or as one Demo officeholder commented recently, "Whenever (Don) Bradley sets the date"... the Mayor's recent press conference regarding the police behavior at Peg's Place a definite step in the right direction... Bella Abzug back in town last week still smarting over her firing by Carter; Abzug blasting the President for not doing enough to help ERA... Bill Eisen, who ran unsuccessfully for the School Board, running to succeed Gordon Lau in District 1... meanwhile, they are lining up by the score to run against "Landslide Bob" Gonzales in District 7... the gala benefit to aid the Moscone Memorial Fund at the Opera House will be held May 4 (751-2983 for ticket info)... meanwhile, a dinner planned for Governor Who on May 8 (981-8333 for info)... former City College Chancellor Louis Batmale has agreed to serve as Finance Chairman of Lee Dolson's re-election campaign... Edward Teller, the famed physicist at Stanford, will definitely seek the GOP nomination to run against Alan Cranston... Mike Curb proving himself to be a lot smarter politician than most had anticipated... my favorite GOP Congressman, Pete McCloskey, says he favors George Bush over Ronald Reagan for the Republican Presidential nomination... Joe Freitas is being bugged by yet another favoritism charge — it seems one of the people involved in the City Hall compensatory time-off scam only worked for the city for two years (no way could six months compensatory time be accrued)... meanwhile, many Gays lining up behind Arlo Smith in his campaign to unseat the flip-flop Freitas... attorney for the School Board Sue Hestor shouldn't be too worried when the Board's attorneys are Prop. 13'd — she has apparently

been feathering her own nest all the while anyway, with practicing law on the side while serving as attorney for the Board... Ernie (Captain) Raab becoming a real contender for Sheriff — Raab has hired a professional firm and is showing up everywhere; Gene Brown, meanwhile, sits behind three locked doors fretting over his re-election chances... Jim Foster hosting a fundraising brunch for Harry Britt on May 6 (282-3856 for info)... I met Jane Fonda the week she won her Oscar when she appeared here to campaign for Gus Newport in Berkeley and I feel all the more that Fonda is the one in that family that should be seeking political office — a great woman, that Jane...

Harvey Milk left nearly



Harvey Milk

\$30,000 in personal and business debts; Harvey's friends would like to erase these debts — you can help by sending a contribution, any size, to Friends of Supervisor Harvey Milk, Attn: B. Tabarracci, UCB, Box 7556, S.F., CA 94120 — Dick Pabich and Zohn Artman are coordinating the efforts to raise this money. Please help! (For more info, call Pabich at 863-5560 or Artman at 864-0815)... Republicans in Colorado are trying to convince Jerry Ford, who has a vacation home in Vail, to change his registration and run against Demo Senator Gary Hart in that state's senatorial race next year... and in N.Y... Demos there hope to run former Miss America Bess Myerson against the popular Jacob Javits next year... Del Dawson, a leader of the Noe Valley Merchants Ass'n, being urged to jump into the Supe race in District 5... meanwhile, the anti-Gay Marjorie Martin has thrown her bigoted bonnet into the race again this year... a rift developing between Ella Hutch and Dianne Feinstein?... Bill Royer, the Republican who won in the heavily Demo 11th District (San Mateo County) a likeable guy... incidentally, out of 12 special Congressional elections held since Carter became President, the GOP has won all but one... Elaine Noble reportedly working on the staff of Boston's Mayor Kevin White (you DO remember Elaine Noble, don't you?)... The Examiner's Starr columnist, Kevin Starr wrote a recent column criticizing the Mayor and the D.A. for holding a \$500-a-plate fundraiser — the attack on Feinstein was particularly self-serving since Kevin would be the first in line if his political big-daddy Joe Alioto were to hold a similar affair...

Urban planner Ed Lawson, a candidate for Gordon Lau's

job, says he is getting help from a lot of former supporters of Lau's... Quentin Kopp's campaign about to shift into high gear (Kopp has a couple of high-powered surprise endorsements to announce)... meanwhile, many Gays and liberals still holding out hope that Milton Marks will run... Governor Brown didn't make much of an impression on fellow Democrats on his trip to the East Coast — in fact, the junior U.S. Senator from Mass. Paul Tsongas remarked: "If you deny Carter the nomination in favor of Jerry Brown, you should reinstate public hanging"... City Attorney George Agnost and the Chamber of Commerce at war with each other... reports from L.A. say that popular Gay activist Don Amador will run for Congress — Amador is currently Mayor Tom Bradley's liaison to the L.A. community... the new President of the Police Officers Ass'n, Bob Barry, when asked about police harassment of Gays on last Sunday's NEWSMAKER program, replied that Gays weren't substantiating their complaints — Barry said his message to the Gay community was to "put up or shut up" (even with comments such as that, Barry is a hell of an improvement over past President Gerald Crowley)...

Some over-zealous Gays have been writing to straight candidates warning them not to run for Supe. Bad business for everybody. The Gay community can vote their choice without threat... Doris Ward's campaign against Gonzales rumored to be run out of the Burtons' offices in the Federal Building (Gonzales, incidentally, ran against Phil Burton a few years back). Ward's campaign manager is Doris Thomas, a Burton aide... Nancy Walker is busily trying to get her name into print to add some credibility in her race against Lee Dolson (you're seeing for the first time and hopefully the last)...

Comic Sahl Quits Radio

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Comic/talk show host Mort Sahl has quit his WRC program here after 24 weeks of controversy. The station announced that it was "Mr. Sahl's decision" and not based on a recent controversy over his homophobic remarks on the air.

Sahl, who began his career in the '50s at San Francisco's hungry 1, was picketed by activists in Los Angeles on an earlier program when he made homophobic remarks. He was dismissed within two weeks after that demonstration.

While in Washington, Sahl had broadcast that homosexuals were "destroying the strength and spirit of America." Local activists reacted vigorously to his comments and began an extensive letter-writing campaign to WRC, according to *The Blade*.

The station states that "Mr. Sahl is returning to Los Angeles."

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Womanalysis

Anti-Gay Violence

by Priscilla Alexander

The recent invasion of Peg's Place by two off-duty police officers, one of whom was a member of the vice squad, is only a more frightening version of the assaults against Lesbians and Gay men that have been plaguing our community.

Last week, I attended a meeting of Community United Against Violence where, at times, I felt as though it was a meeting of the *Judenrat* in Berlin in 1931, before things really got bad, before Hitler was in power, when random attacks against Jews were increasing under the influence of such diatribes as "*Mein Kampf*." There is a sense in our community, these days, of being under siege. If we are to be able to do anything about it, I think we must try to understand the factors that contribute to this violence.

The number of assaults that are reported in the Castro quarter of the Mission district are not out of proportion to the number of assaults reported for the whole district. But while

Briggs, Dan White, Anita Bryant and others, who get a lot more press and public attention than, for example, Masters and Johnson. All many of them know about us is that we are "perverted," and all they know that we do is engage in sex. They do not know that we work, learn, cook, drive cars, fix cars, type, paint houses, write for newspapers, etc.

These same young people who are not learning anything about sex in a rational way are engaging in sexual activity. Before the passage of the Hyde Amendment, which cut off federal funds for abortions, a third of the abortions in this country were performed on high school students. The current epidemic in teen-age pregnancies involve young women who are choosing to bear and keep their babies in order to have "someone to love them."

If the Kinsey figures hold true, about half of the adolescent males have at least occasional sexual feelings for each other which, without any

The majority of young people in this city probably know little or nothing about sexuality. . .

most of the assaults in the rest of the district seem to be between rival groups of peers, within the family, or in conjunction with other crimes, the assaults on Lesbians and Gay men are committed by roving groups of adolescent males who come looking for Gay people to victimize.

The assailants are not from any one ethnic group, but are from all of them. And although the assaults that have been reported have been committed by males, an incident of harassment that I witnessed a few weeks ago was committed by a young male who seemed to be performing for a group of young females.

Most of the assailants are between the ages of about 15 and 18. While our society makes an assumption that men reach their sexual peak at about the age of 18, many of these adolescent males have never been privileged to hear a rational discussion about sex, either at home, in church, or in school. Although the San Francisco Board of Education passed a resolution calling for a discussion of Gay lifestyles in the system's sex education classes, not all junior and senior high schools provide such classes. And parochial and independent private schools are not even covered by the Board's resolution.

The result is that a majority of the young people in this city probably know little or nothing about any sexuality, whether heterosexual or homosexual. At the same time, they hear the homophobic remarks of John

rational discussion of those feelings, is probably pretty confusing.

At the same time, San Francisco, like the rest of the country, is in an economic crunch. Housing costs have skyrocketed, both for buyers and renters. Speculators, who are from every ethnic, national, religious, sexual and affectional group, buy and sell houses, so that some buildings change hands three or four times within a year or so. The term "Gay speculator" has come into common usage, perpetuated by the straight press as well as by the Black Leadership Forum (which privately apologized).

Meanwhile, Proposition 13 has forced cuts in services to the very people who live in the districts — the Mission, the Western Addition — in which old houses in disrepair are being bought, fixed up, and sold again, with an accompanying raise in the rent.

The cut that most affects the age group from which most of the assailants come is, of course, in the schools. Thousands of teachers are faced with possible layoffs. Aside from what that does to the emotional well-being of the teachers involved, the probable loss of teachers, with the concomitant increase in class size, must be terrifying to many students. They are already convinced, by the hysterical media attention to the subject, that they are failing to read. They know that without passing certain literacy tests, they cannot get a high school diploma.



Whistle while you lurk

ma. And without that diploma, they will be unable to find decent jobs, if they can find any at all.

Unemployment among minority youth is 35-30 percent, and it is high for all young people. The blitzkrieg that is facing the schools will do nothing to alleviate that problem. These students, moreover, are aware that it is mostly middle-class whites that voted for Proposition 13. They perceive Lesbians and Gay men to be non-parents, and therefore assume we do not care what happens to children.

Combine the economic fears that these students have, with their ignorance and fear of homosexuality, and the situation becomes explosive.

Over the next few months, we must try to find ways to intervene in this dangerous cycle. We must reach these young people, and let them see us as real people who are not out to do them harm. And we must make them accept responsibility for the harm, and the fear, that they are causing us. We must reach out to those young people who have not yet harmed us, but we must also reach out to, and confront, those who have.

(To be continued. . .)

Comic Strips: 'Gay' Is 'In'

"Brenda Starr, Reporter" has discovered that her rival, the very sexy Slipper Veil, is actually a female impersonator nephew of Brenda's current lover, Basil. Brenda admits that she envies Slipper while Basil states that his nephew's "coming out" is causing him considerable despair.

It is all happening in the syndicated comic strips, which first started the Gay cycle when a character in "Doonesbury" stated that he was Gay. That strip was banned in several southern states and made *TIME* magazine.

"Prince Valiant" is also getting his exposure — not directly, but through one of its regulars, the strip's youthful hero Arn. Arn met a somewhat effete knight, Sir Edwin. Two frames after they met, Sir Edwin is lying naked under a blanket in what could be described as a seductive pose. Edwin asks Arn to spend the night, but Arn declines.

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Guest Column

Blacks Wrong On Who Speculates

By Randy Stallings

Recently there has been a great deal of irresponsible rhetoric coming out of the Black Leadership Forum concerning housing speculation, specifically Gay speculation in the Western Addition.

As a housing and community activist, and as a Gay person, I am outraged.

There is indeed a major problem concerning speculation in San Francisco. We of the San Francisco Housing Coalition have been fighting this problem for over a year. We unsuccessfully attempted to get an ordinance

passed before the Board of Supervisors that would have strongly discouraged speculation. We are presently drafting an initiative for the November ballot that would have similar results. Our coalition of many community groups and individuals has received no help from the Black Leadership Forum. Ironically, the Black Leadership Forum opposed the recent Renters' Rebate Initiative, Prop. U. They obviously could not see the need for renters relief last November. And now they would rather attack Gay people in general than housing speculators (most of whom are

straight).

We must point the finger at the real culprits: speculators. Speculators are black and white, straight and Gay, men and women. Most seem to be white and straight, and many of them are women.

Some Gay people are indeed speculators. Most are not. Many Gays are capitalists, many are socialists. They are black and white, male and female. An additional outrage with sexist and racist overtones is the Black Leadership Forum's emphasis on white males as being the only Gay people they seem to acknowledge.

Ida Strickland in her recent Third World Fund editorial also said that Gays are not interested in black issues such as the Death Penalty. This is blatant nonsense. As Chairperson of the California Coalition Against the Death Penalty and Chair of Californians Against Prop. 7, the Murder Penalty Initiative on the recent ballot, I can personally attest to the variety of Gay groups and individuals involved in the anti-death penalty struggle (like the Lesbian Schoolworkers; California Outreach, S.F. Gay Liberation, the Milk Democratic Club and others). There are also some black groups involved in the struggle, but few actively so, and not including the Black Leadership Forum.

Most openly Gay people (the only way to be) and most black people are exploited. We should be joining together to defeat the same forces that keep most of us down — the rich, the big real estate interests, the downtown forces, be they heterosexual or homosexual, white or black.

To detract people's attention from the real problem — speculators of all races and orientations serves only to further the difficulties of the very people the Forum purports to represent.

There already has been sporadic violence from blacks directed at white, Gay men in recent days. The Forum will have to take its share of the responsibility for any such violence directed at Gay people.

Homophobia comes from the same primitive mentality that produces sexism and racism. One cannot condemn one and not the others without being a hypocrite. For they are all forms of fascism. Until black people, Asian people, Chicano and Latin people, other racial minorities and Gay people of both sexes and all races join together and quit attacking each other, we will continue to play right into the hands of those who grow rich off our common misery.

Black/Gay Housing Panel — April 28

Idaree Westbrook of the Black Leadership Forum will be one of the panelists when the Fillmore Community Develop-

ment Corporation presents a panel on the Black/Gay housing crunch in the Western Addition on April 28. Westbrook brought public attention earlier to charges that Gays use their greater disposable income to squeeze Blacks out of scarce housing. Gay people on the panel will be editor Duke Smith, real estate agent Paul Langley, and Randy Stallings of the San Francisco Housing Coalition.

The sponsoring group was formed in 1976 to demonstrate to the Redevelopment Agency that housing can be renovated more inexpensively than the Agency's projections. FCDC purchases buildings from Redevelopment and renovates them under a program called "Sweet Equity." This project will be the topic of an hour workshop immediately preceding the Black/Gay panel.

The Black Leadership Forum is currently examining Western Addition housing problems. BLF president Wally Stokes says Saturday's panel will be a major element of the final report.

Both Gay and Black leaders will appear on the panel at the New Liberation United Presbyterian Church, 1100 Divisadero (near Turk), from 1:00-4:00pm.

A Continuing Saga

Bryant Takes to Radio, Protests and Rejects

Singer/professional homophobe Anita Bryant continues to be a lively subject of controversy as she pursues her crusade to "save America's children."

However, she is having problems: There are few homosexuals who are taking advantage of the "become straight" clinic she operates in Miami. In addition, Gays have been protesting her appearances before religious groups — the latest demonstration being in Cincinnati. Bryant also had two engagements cancelled, one in her home state and the other in Canberra, Australia. In a new attempt to gain finances for her crusade, she will now take to the radio airwaves.

CANCELLATIONS

Australian TV recently cancelled Bryant's appearance here on the Terry Willisee talk show. Willisee had announced her arrival but was then flooded with protest letters, including a threat by Gay activists to boycott program sponsors if she appeared. Australian TV backed down and told Bryant to stay home. She did.

For the past six years, Bryant has performed at the Winter Haven Florida Citrus Showcase pageant in Miami. This year the sponsors chose the TV host of "Hollywood Squares," Peter Marshall. "We just decided to get a little different personality," an official explained. "I don't think we were

especially trying to get away from Miss Bryant."

GAY PROTESTS

Bryant tried to make a quiet appearance sponsored by a suburban church in Cincinnati. The word leaked out and 200 people — on short notice — protested with a silent vigil as she spoke. Ironically, this happened during a local Gay Awareness Week.

It was announced that she would sing, not speak, to the assembled. Over 3,000 free tickets had been selectively distributed to churches. Bryant sang at the civic auditorium under sponsorship of the Church of the Nazarene.

OLD-FASHIONED VALUES

Bryant's next big promotion is for a 90-minute radio special that will sell "old-fashioned



Anita Bryant takes to radio

values." It will be a "panorama of Americana" using settings such as Gettysburg, Valley Forge, West Point, Sun Valley and the small-town Oklahoma church where Bryant sang as a child.

There is a syndicated radio program planned for September. This will be based on the now-defunct Don McNeill's "Breakfast Club" which featured McNeill moving about an audience chatting with people and then talking with guests. Bryant started her career on the original program. The new version will include popular songs, advice, interviews, hymns and Scripture readings.

Bryant has evidently turned to radio after a projected TV series never developed. She has repeatedly complained that she cannot get appearances on national TV talk programs because she is "too controversial."

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Gay Press Faces Legal Actions

Two outstanding Gay newspapers, *Gay News* in London, England, and *The Body Politic* of Toronto, Canada, are seeking vindication from legal charges.

Gay News is appealing its conviction on "blasphemy" charges. It could take up to three years before its appeal is heard. The newspaper was charged under a 50-year-old law that prohibits "blasphemy against the Anglican church." The controversy was over the publication of a poem, "The Love That Dares Not Speak Its Name," which included an erotic description of Jesus Christ.

The Body Politic, which recently won a lower court decision over publication of a controversial article, now may be confronted with a second trial. The newspaper had published "Boys Loving Men Loving Boys," which explored the subject of youth/adult sexual relations. Police had arrested three of the newspaper's executives and confiscated books and materials at the Toronto newspaper office of BP. A judge later ruled that the article was a scholarly work, not obscene.

Rick Bebout, a member of the BP collective, told *Gay Community News* that the newspaper had received notice that an appeal by the state was being contemplated. He added that an additional trial would be a serious drain on the finances of the newspaper, which is still attempting to pay attorney's fees for the earlier trial.

Arizona 'No' to Anti-Gay Bill

PHOENIX

Gay activists have evidently instilled some fear in the state legislature here from the House removal of an amendment to a Foster Care Home bill (HB-2147) that would have prohibited certification of homosexuals as adoptive parents.

The amendment passed on the House floor; its sponsor later stripped it from the bill at the insistence of Speaker Frank Kelley and other House leaders. They told the sponsor that they didn't want to risk having homosexuals descend on the Capitol to protest the amendment, according to *Arizona Gay News*.

In another action the House also rejected an amendment to the same bill that would have barred the placement of a child in any home where a homosexual lived.

Both amendments were authored by Rep. Marjory Olsson (D-San Maue) who has become known as a moral crusader on the House floor. Her speeches frequently assail "adultery, fornication, prostitution, homosexuality, and other

forms of deviate behavior."

Olsson said that the current criminal system allows that "man has an unalienable right to go to hell in his own fashion... I would like to see a law like California's Proposition 6. The only reason that was defeated was because Ronald Reagan came out and showed his true colors. He's not a true conservative as he claims to be. A true conservative is a person who swears his allegiance to this country and to the Constitution of the U.S."

In a House debate, Olsson explained, "I don't want to infringe on the rights of homosexuals but their rights stop at any minor's nose. I personally believe their sex preference isn't normal."

Legislative lobbying to explain that homosexuals are no more interested in sex with children than heterosexuals has been consistently conducted by Citizens for Constitutional Rights, a Gay activist group.

Washington March Session — April 28

The public is urged to attend a local planning session for the October 14 "March on Washington" this weekend (Saturday, April 28).

The all-day conference for Northern California is being held in conjunction with similar meetings across the country to plan for a proposed demonstration for Gay rights in the nation's capital.

Travel plans, a future "March" meet in Houston, and local participation in the projected event will be among the topics. A \$2 donation is requested to defray expenses of the meeting. The meeting will be at 50 Fell Street from 10:00am to 6:00pm. Information may be obtained at 863-9109 and 647-2181.

Vermont Town Protests 'Gay Mecca' Label

BELLOW FALLS, VT.

This small Vermont town has been disturbed by a national Gay magazine's contention that it could become "a Gay mecca" — another Provincetown. The town newspaper, *Bellow Falls Times*, has editorialized that the article is "ridiculous."

The article by John Michael Williams invited readers of *Blueboy* to "invest" in the community to open up its potential. Some local Gay people were surprised to find that it already had a "Gay community" when the one Gay-identified business is a hotel/bar called the Andrews Inn.

Police Chief Sigmund Ostrowski said "the magazine twisted the community's live-and-let-live attitude into one supportive of Gays." The *Times* said the article made "an inference that the local police

department caters to Gay people by picking them up at the train station and by fighting for the opportunity to work at the Gay bar in town at night." Chief Ostrowski said this was a distortion because police often pick up anyone who is at the station in need of a ride into town and that officers do not fight to get the patrol position at the hotel.

Probably the biggest error in the article by Williams is his praise for the Greater Falls Eatery. Williams wrote that it was owned by two Gay men and was quite popular since the food is moderately priced, delicious, and the atmosphere is comfortable. The *Times* related to *Gay Community News* that the restaurant does not exist.

Male-Male Sex Rated by San Diego

SAN DIEGO

Local Gay activists are concerned over recent police harassments and prosecutions by City Attorney John W. Witt. Thus special interest has been focused on Witt's public stand in regard to how his department rates male-male sex in regard to male-female sex in pornography arrests. It appears that his attitude is reflected in other arrests and harassments.

City Attorney Witt has the following scale for making pornography arrests with the most "offensive" listed first:

1. Human sex with animals.
2. Sex involving children.
3. Male-male sex with penetration.
4. Male-male sex without penetration.
5. Female-female sex.
6. Heterosexual sex.

Witt's scale was revealed when he discussed recent adult book stores arrests with the president of the American Civil Liberties Union, Fred Scholl. The meeting was arranged when a vice officer, Howard Goldie, testified during a trial that he rarely made arrests of book store owners if they only displayed male-female erotic materials.

It was also revealed during the discussions that an assistant city attorney, Susan Cook, believes that it is "obscene" when two males kiss in public.

Local Gay activists believe that recent harassments of the Gay community may center partly in judgments now being made in the city attorney's office.

Western Airlines Discriminates?

MIAMI

A dismissed executive of Western Airlines has filed a \$10 million suit against the company for allegedly conducting an investigation into his sexual practices and then dismissing

him for being Gay.

Sheldon Omanson was sales manager of the airline's Florida operation in May, 1977. This was during the period that Dade County's non discrimination ordinance was still in effect (later repealed in an effort led by Anita Bryant). He was dismissed and filed charges that the airlines invaded his privacy, acted maliciously, violated his civil rights, and breached his contract.

Western Airlines officials would not respond to B.A.R.'s questions, stating that they do not comment on pending legal actions.



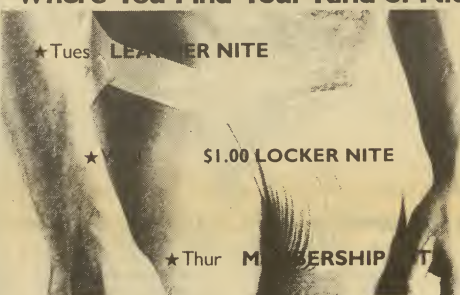
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Volcano!

by A. Marc Leventhal

HAWAII: The Big Island

The Hawaiian Islands are of volcanic origin and they are still alive. The major attractions on Hawaii are the active volcanos on the southeastern end of the island, a short drive south of Hilo. The two most active ones are Mauna Loa and Kilauea, portions of these two including their great summit calderas lie within the 359 square miles of Hawaii Volcanos National



HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK on the Big Island of Hawaii presents some eerie scenes such as this where steam seeps through the earth on the edge of Kilauea caldera.

Park.

You might be interested in overnighting at Volcano House, a charming old hotel now operated by Sheraton Hotels. It is right on the rim of the Kilauea caldera and being a small lodge, your Travel Agent should make reservations for you well in advance.

Stephen and I opted to drive down from nearby Hilo early in the morning in time to enjoy the delicious buffet at Sheraton's Volcano House. Most of the tour buses usually stop there for lunch, so it is nice to start the day early and enjoy the park at your own pace.

The first stop should be the Visitor's Center across the road, where an introductory film is showing, and other dis-

plays prepare you for what you will be visiting. Our first stops were the steam vents and sulphur banks. Standing on the rim of Steaming Bluff, we could only begin to grasp the vast size of the volcano. Crater Rim Road encircles the volcano with lots of scenic turnoffs. Hiking trails are available but you don't have to venture too

is at one of the Long's Drug Stores that always have cases of the delicious nut on sale. And there are so many gardens/nurseries to visit: orchids, antheriums, etc.

With United Airlines on strike at time of writing, and expected to be on strike for a while, make plans for your summer travel to Hawaii now since space is so limited with the other airlines. Call your travel agent or contact me at World Travel Arrangers, 421-4460 for assistance.

\$6,000 Award in Cop Beating Case

NEW HAVEN, CT.

A federal jury has awarded \$6,000 to Peter Fifis for damages resulting from a 1973 incident in a parking lot and service station near the Long Wharf Theater here. The area is allegedly a homosexual cruising area.

Fifis was sitting alone in his car and saw a group of police officers approach. Frightened, he ran from the car and was pursued into a service station. An attendant there later testified that the officers proceeded to beat Fifis. The victim had a fractured skull and was hospitalized.

Although Fifis was originally charged with resisting arrest, indecency, and assaulting an officer, all these charges were later dismissed. He was eventually charged only with "disorderly conduct" and fined \$25. Two of the four accused officers are still with the New Haven police department, not in "vice squad" positions.

Fifis' attorney, John Williams, told *Gay Community News* that the persistence of Fifis' demand for justice is a warning that "just because people are a little different, that's no excuse to beat them up — and juries won't stand for it any more."

NGTF Expands Minority Concern

NEW YORK CITY

Issues of special concern to Blacks, Hispanics, Asian-Americans and Native Americans are being more closely addressed by a new National Third World Concerns Caucus formed by the National Gay Task Force. Pat Norman, a San Francisco Black Lesbian/feminist, is one of the people facilitating the new group.

Even higher falls can be seen by taking the Waipio Valley Shuttle. Operated out from Waipio Valley Lookout, four-wheel drive vehicles descend a scary trail down to the valley floor to the black sand beach where the river flows into the sea. At the head of the valley is the 1089-foot Hiilawe Falls, the highest in the U.S. This valley was the site of Peace Corps Village training but now only houses a few taro growers. It is an exciting sightseeing sidetrip, only an hour away from Hilo. Call 935-2983 when in Hilo and find out when space is available.

From there you might want to continue on to the Parker Ranch area for lunch or high tea. You can keep on going around westward to the hotels and sunny beaches at Kailua and Keauhou on the Kona coast.

There are several Macadamia Nut factories to stop at and sample the goodies. Your best bet in buying the nuts, though,

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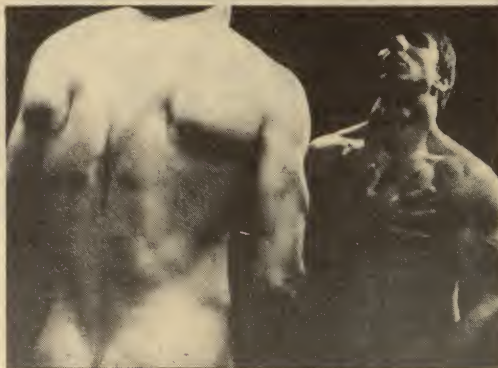
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Dull Male Sex Is...



"Before we were liberated, we had to skulk about unsavory places furtively gaining satisfaction and all sex was good — if we could get it... Now we concern ourselves with quality; hence, the concept of Dull Sex."

This is the conclusion of writer Mitchell Menegu in Cleveland's *High Gear* newspaper. He concludes, "Increased activity facilitates comparison. Comparison results in qualitative judgments. The question is, What is Dull Sex in 1979?" It is...

- ... doing something that we've done before.
- ... not doing what we always do.
- ... a trick who ignores us the next time we meet.
- ... identical handkerchiefs in identical pockets.
- ... tarnished handcuffs.
- ... a Tiny Tim voice in a Burt Reynolds body.
- ... being asked "What do you like to do?"
- ... mating of the tortoise and the hare.
- ... one who does not kiss but does everything else, without hands.
- ... being asked "Is this really better than doing it with a girl?"
- ... someone who comes, and goes.
- ... someone who comes, and won't leave.

Gay Atheists — One Year Old

Harvey Milk: Was He an Atheist?

religious person: one devoted to the divine, of that which is held to be of ultimate importance

agnostic: one who believes that the existence of any ultimate reality (as God) is unknown and probably unknowable

atheist: one who denies the existence of God

"I want nothing even smacking, or smelling, or hinting of religion or any kind of religious service for me."

This was part of the message left by the late Supervisor Harvey Milk on the famed "legacy" cassette tape that he left for posterity. The segment on religion was overshadowed after his death by leaks to the media about his choices (and rejections) as his successor. The new segment is revealed by the San Francisco-based Gay Atheist League of America in its monthly magazine, *GALA Review*. The article was by Tom Rolfsen, founder of GALA.

On the tape, Milk urged, "I hope there will be no service of any kind, but knowing that there will be some people who will want to 'do something'... it must not be religious." (Ironically, a major temple and a local Gay Jewish group did have services for Milk — evidently without a knowledge of the wishes expressed on the tape.)

"Religions don't understand God," Milk recorded. "Where were all the churches when the Anita Bryants were playing gymnastics with the Bible? Why were they so silent?"

Milk commented, "I don't mean an individual church here and a church there. I mean, why didn't the churches speak out and say, 'She's playing gymnastics with the Bible."

She's lying. She's hypocritical. She's the epitome of the Devil."

The late supervisor was emphatic that he rejected religious services after his death. What was it he did want to happen?

"If the 'bang' goes off, I hope that people who are angry, mad, and frustrated will take out their anger, madness and frustration in a positive way, rather than a negative way.

"I would like to see every doctor who is Gay, every Gay dentist, every Gay teacher, every Gay judge, every Gay lawyer, every Gay architect come out and rip off the shreds of the closet door. They should come out forward and strong.

"If a bullet enters my brain, let every bullet destroy every closet door."

The Gay Atheists have local meetings. Readers may write GALA, Box 14142, SF 94114.

Gay Atheists

'Religion Is Not The Answer'

A national organization of Gay Atheists is having its first anniversary. Gay Atheists League of America (GALA) is headquartered in San Francisco, where it was organized by a local activist, Tom Rolfsen. Atheists reject the existence of God and religious faith and practice.

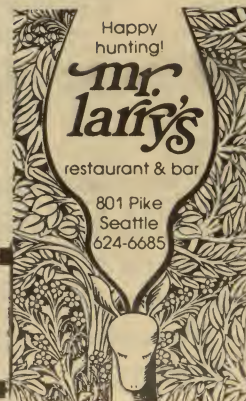
GALA had twenty of its members at the rally in Sacramento last year when President Carter said he opposed Proposition 6. The group is interested in exposing the many fundamentalist Christian groups that become wealthy and spend that wealth on anti-Gay crusades. Thirty people attended GALA's March meeting in which a tape of evangelist Jerry Falwell's sermon condemning homosexuality was discussed.

Rolfsen stressed that GALA is an educational group without

political leanings. He said that part of the group's effort is to inform the public that "when organized religion uses its power to control government and forces its beliefs and social practices on unpopular minorities and lifestyles, it becomes dangerous, and a serious threat to society."

GALA meetings are public. The group meets at 330 Grove Street at 7:30pm.

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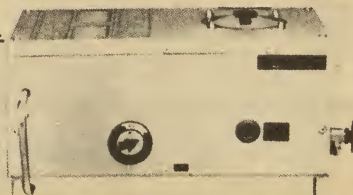
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Oakland May Benefits for Muscular Dystrophy

May 6 — a barbecue will be held at Grandma's House starting at 1:00pm. Donation is \$3 for all you can eat.

May 8 — a special dinner at the Revol which is now sold out.

May 17 — Lady Cha Cha and the Lake Lounge will present a benefit auction with all proceeds going to Ed Paulson's Muscular Dystrophy Drive. Auctionable items are requested; if you have anything to donate, call 893-9454. Remember — May 17, Lake Lounge, 7:30pm.

Cinco De Mayo Feast Planned

SAN JOSE

A live mariachi band will play for four hours on Cinco De Mayo in San Jose as Gay citizens celebrate Mexican Independence Day. The special gala event will be on Saturday, May 5, 3:00-7:00pm.

Dancing to the mariachis will be enjoyed while the Grand Taradeada crowd enjoys a Mexican feast. Leading the festivities will be Senor Vaquero, Alex, and Senorita Vaquera, Francesca, de San Jose. The local group, Casa Inc., will be the sponsor.

Cinco De Mayo will be celebrated at Aunt Helen's Galley, 163 W. Alma.



Roller Derby now in San Jose — Bay Bombers will take on the Southern Jollers.

Lady Patricia (A.K.A. Pat) and King went to Lynn. Alphonso was also crowned Grand Duke.

The Toyon still features Sunday brunch — with a varied and inexpensive menu — and they also have the kitchen open for after hours on weekends, with some of the tastiest hamburgers and other delights around.

HAYWARD

Don't forget Frank Frommelt's 2nd Annual Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, May 5. All proceeds go to the Hayward Gay Float. Last year this event raised over \$1,000 and they hope to top that figure this year. For information, call 881-9877.

H.E.R.O. is sponsoring two, three, or maybe four baseball teams. Both guys and gals are asked to come out. Call 881-9877 for information. Look for the upcoming H.E.R.O. picnic which will be held at Hidden Valley Ranch with lots of swimming and bountiful quantities of food in store for your enjoyment. The date is still to be announced. H.E.R.O. meets every third Wednesday of the month at 8:00pm in the B.O.A. Building at Main and 2nd Streets. All are welcome.

OAKLAND

With Nez Pas

The Zephyr now has new hours — additional hours, that is. They now open at 4:00pm, with Happy Hour from 5:00 til 7:00 — 15 cents off any drink and complimentary snacks. Wednesday is Pool Tournament night, with a \$15 prize. Entertainment in the Club Car features David Canfield on the 27th & 28th, Friday & Saturday.

Grandma's House features Bare Legs in Shorts Day on Sundays — discounts on drinks to all wearing shorts from 2:00 til 6:00pm. Steve from the Revol won the recent Easter Hat Contest held at Grandma's.

Now on 'the planks at the Revol is Billy Bahr — and in the dining room, Ivan. Watch for the upcoming Hawaiian Luau on Memorial Day.

The Lancers will soon celebrate the fact that it has been almost a year since Tony took over.

Points South, East, & North

Harassment in State Capital

by Gene

SACRAMENTO

Congratulations to the Valley Knights M/C for their successful Third Anniversary held at the Tin Can this past weekend. Hope you have many more outstanding events as much fun as this was. One of the highlights of the day was the Rurals M/C from Holland, who will be visiting the United States in mid-May.

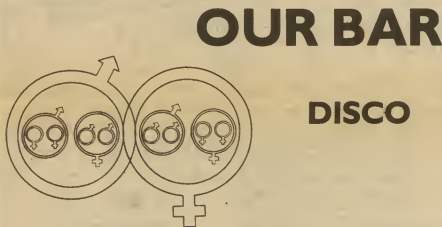
The Upstairs/Downstairs Disco, Sacramento's newest, has been the subject of harassment by Sacramento's Finest. On two consecutive nights, police entered the bar and stopped the music and dancing and demanded that everyone show I.D. When Bill Spiller, local columnist for "Mom Guess What," the Sacramento area Gay newspaper, asked to see badge numbers and questioned the reason for the raid, he was ignored. A second patron reminded the police of

the request for badge numbers and was arrested for an "undisclosed offense" and removed, protesting, from the bar. The second evening police opened every bottle of wine and beer — "looking for liquor." Legal recourse is being obtained by the owners of the bar.

On April 29 the G.N.I.E. court of Sacramento will present the investiture of the Rainbow Eagle Court of Emperor V Bob and Empress VI Tina, to be held at the Riverbend Country Club, 500 Douglas in Broderick, CA. Tickets are \$10 and include a dinner and entertainment. No host cocktails. For information call (916) 334-3992 or (916) 334-5514.

SAN JOSE & PENINSULA

Down in San Jose, The Sundown Saloon held its King & Queen of the Sundown ceremonies. The bar was packed beyond belief. Queen went to



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San Jose Skaters

The 1979 International Roller Skating League Season Opener is just days away...

On Saturday, April 28, at 8:00pm the San Francisco Bay Bombers open the season against the powerful Southern Jolters in the newly remodeled San Jose Civic Auditorium.

It will be the first time in history that the Bay Bombers have opened the season in San Jose! And the Bay Bombers have a fresh new look to their line-up...

This year the Bay Area team is coached by Cliff Butler, a Berkeley native that has skated over a decade with the Bombers. Charlie O'Connell's recent decision to retire from the game prompted this change, and Bay Bomber President David J. Lipschultz is excited at the new look that the Bay Area's team will have this season. Returning Men's captain Bill Groll, Dynamite Tony Roman, the Golden Girl Joanie Weston, Delores Tucker, Carol "Peanuts" Meyer, and rookie sensation Larry Stull, just to name a few.

The Southern Jolters are the newest team in the league, and they are coached by Alfonso Reyes, with Women's captain Sandy Dunn leading the distaff side. Adding scoring punch to this potent line-up will be "The Birdman" Taft Waters, Rita Williams, Debi Cho, and Johnny Wrice.

Tickets are now on sale at the San Jose Box Office, all northern California BASS outlets and at the Civic Auditorium from 4:00pm the day of the game. Bay Bomber management has set new lower ticket prices for the Civic Auditorium, with adults at \$4.00 and kids 12 and under just \$2.00.

Modesto News

On March 11, the people of Modesto joined forces and held their annual Gay Emergency Fund Auction. This year the proceeds were designated to benefit the Salvation Army, who have promised to give assistance on an emergency basis to any needy Gay person whenever possible.

During the course of the frantic bidding, Empress Laura was heard to say, "What fabulous support!" Indeed, she had every right to make that statement since Laura was in charge and had worked very hard with the complete enthusiasm and cooperation from the previous Emperesses of Modesto. Without their help in procuring all the items as well as acting as auctioneers during the event, the evening wouldn't have been the tremendous success that it was. Over \$1,900 was raised in only three short hours.

This year Laura wanted the event to be the combined efforts of Empress I Christina,

Empress II Danny, Empress III Marlena and Empress IV Kevi. Their vital presence and hard work during the evening clearly demonstrates that a family which works together, and plays together, indeed stays together. "An unprecedented success!" the reigning Empress said. The evening was complete with the honored presence and strong support of Emperor I Danny, Emperor III #1 Jo, and Laura's other half and totally dedicated Emperor V John.

Among the more exotic items auctioned were two rare books of Shakespeare, several antiques, paintings, and an autographed text of Norman Rockwell works. Not to mention smaller, useful items such as dishes, linens, and the famous red gown of the well-known entertainer Elaine Barringer. The Mustang Club was the host bar for the evening, thanks to Shirley Owens.

John and Laura have consistently felt that their major efforts do indeed belong in their own community. The success of this auction certainly verifies this.

"We had hoped it would be as big a success for our own people as was the earlier auction held to raise funds to defeat the Briggs Initiative, which netted \$1,400," Laura explained, "but this truly overwhelming support just demonstrates that united we can help each other."

'Gay Week' in Sacramento

A five-day Gay Awareness Week is scheduled for the California State University campus here, April 30-May 4. Comedienne Pat Bond will perform Tuesday, May 1, at 8:00pm in the Redwood Room. The Gay film WORD IS OUT will be shown Friday, May 4, at 6:00pm.

Art, religion, parents, ethnics, poetry, bisexuality and other facets of the Gay lifestyle will be discussed in panels and by guest speakers. The full schedule may be obtained from "Joanna" at (916) 481-5288. The campus Gay Peoples Union, which is sponsoring the week, may be contacted at the campus, 6000 J Street, (916) 454-6595.

East Bay Gay Day

An East Bay Gay Day has been planned for June 17.

Coordinated by Pacific Center and other East Bay Gay groups and individuals, the event will include speakers, entertainment, crafts fair, booths and food.

For further information, call Pacific Center at 444-5555 or 841-6224.

Masters & Johnson Gay Study Revealing

William Masters and Virginia Johnson's latest book, "Homosexuality in Perspective," reveals more sameness about heterosexual and homosexual experiences than it does differences between the two experiences.

The emphasis, as in all Masters/Johnson studies, is on the physical — not the psychological. Responses of partners are indicated by tapes, electronics and observation — of physical and sexual response. The researchers have been criticized in the past for projecting psychological analysis based on physical responses.

The sexperts have admitted that the current sampling is limited — 176 homosexuals, including 94 men and 82 women — aged 21-54. The comparison group had 681 heterosexual volunteers. Much of the evidence was drawn from partners who were close rather than "assigned" in non-involved situations — another limiting factor in the research.

Some conclusions reached, with the admitted handicaps of the research, were revealing:

- Gays, particularly close couples who have lived together for one year or more, have a more relaxed approach to sex and linger longer at each stage of sex. Straight counterparts "get to it" more immediately — often within 30 seconds after the encounter begins.

- Masturbation, rectal penetration, the use of dildos, and oral-genital stimulation are employed by both hetero and homosexual couples.

- Lesbians fantasize more than heterosexual women — often about forced sex. Heterosexual women tend to fantasize more about entertainers and casual acquaintances or about being raped by an unidentified man.

- Gay men fantasize vividly on the penis or the buttocks, and upon forced sex — with themselves as the rapist.

- Straight men often visualize themselves as having sex with a woman — not the usual partner — in forced sex encounters, more often than not with themselves as victim and not the aggressor.

- Among those dissatisfied with being homosexual, treatment over a 10-year period produced a 30% "failure" rate in conversion to heterosexuality. (Note that the "success" rate is undefined in the research.)

- Heterosexuals often fantasize having sex with people of the same sex, and a surprisingly large number of homosexuals fantasize having sex with members of the opposite sex. The sameness also is revealed

in that both heterosexuals and homosexuals have the relatively same degree of fantasy in regard to being stimulated by the imagery of forced sex acts.

New Heads for San Jose's 'Lambda'

Johnie Staggs, Lesbian/feminist activist, has been elected chair of the largest Gay group in Santa Clara County, the Lambda Association. Staggs has explained that she and vice chair Kent Olson actually serve as co-chairs of the group, sharing responsibility equally.

The new chair has pleaded with Gay people in Santa Clara County to come forth and participate more actively in the activities of Lambda. She said, "Let us all share the load."

Lambda has 200 members. Readers may contact Lambda at Box 26126, San Jose.



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Pop: Up, Coming & Voice

By Adam Block

DANCE TO NEW WAVE AND ROCK: DJ Larry offers an imaginative array of rock, new wave, and Motown oldies. Aside from a come-lately team of loose-cannon pogo-destructo morons who occasionally monopolize the dance floor, the crowd is great. Women welcome. Come early to avoid the line, and please don't pick on George Ferren. (*The Stud, 12th & Folsom, Mondays, 8pm-2am, No Cover*)

MUHAL RICHARD ABRAMS, OLIVER LAKE TRIO with MICHAEL G. JACKSON: A stellar jazz show. Abrams, a founder of AACM, will be playing solo piano in a style which combines bop, stride, and avant-garde techniques. Lake, out of St. Louis, was instrumental in liberating avant-garde sax from the screech and honk school of Ayler while redefining melody and structure. Jackson is a remarkable, experimental guitarist in his own right. (*Keystone Korner, April 26-29, 9:00 & 11:00, \$6*)

TODD RUNDGREN: The wizard and true star is back to the bars, where his last lp was recorded. Having finished production chores for the Tubes, Tom Robinson Band, and Patti Smith, he's probably checking his chops; maybe performing new material — probably with Utopia. A charming performer and musical heavyweight. (*Old Waldorf, April 27-30, 8:00 & 11:00, \$9.50 adv./\$10.50 show*)

AVENGERS, X FROM LA, ZEROS: The headliners make this show attractive. I've heard great things about their current punk-a-billy show. X have made few waves. The Zeros do punk reggae, ala their single of "Johnny Too Bad." (*Gay Community Center, 330 Grove, April 27, 9:00, \$3.50*)

DAVID BROMBERG, GEORGE CHRISTOPHOLUS: Bromberg is an acoustic guitar whiz who has honed meager vocal gifts for pop-eyed blues and sports a mighty entertaining show — these to be recorded so he should be pumping it out. The opener is greek to me. (*Great American Music Hall, April 28 & 29, 8:30 & 11:30, \$8*)

OREGON/ART LANDE: Oregon's incredible fusion of Eastern and Western musical elements (sitar, guitar, flugelhorn, bass, and oboe, amongst others) has won them a fervent following. Lead guitarist Ralph Towner is a stratospheric talent. Pianist Lande is local and swell. Hope it's not sold out. (*Great American Music Hall, April 30 & May 1, 8:30 & 11:30, \$6*)

JOHN CALE: A seminal figure in the new wave; one-time violaist for the Velvet Underground, and author of a suite of impressive lps, arrives for a rare appearance. It is rumored that Nico, former vocalist for the Velvets, will be with him. (*Old Waldorf, May 1 & 2, 8:00 & 11:00, \$5.50 adv./\$6.50 door*)

ROBERT GORDON featuring CHRIS SPEDDING: According to your ears, Gordon is either a second rate imitator of the glory days of Sun studios, or a gifted follower of Elvis P. and Co. Springsteen wrote the Pointer Sisters' hit "Fire" for him. Spedding is a highly regarded UK session guitarist, replacing Link Wray in Gordon's band. Opener unscheduled. (*Oakland Center Theater, May 3, 8:00, \$6.50, \$7.50*)

KEITH JARRETT & BELONGING: On the veritable heels of his recent, lauded, solo concert, Jarrett returns with the group featured on his recent MY SONG lp. Saxophonist Jan Garbarek is extraordinary. (*Great American Music Hall, May 4-6, 8:30 & 11:00, \$8*)

READYMADES, PEARL HARBOR, NEXT: Heavy metal openers; power-pop new wavers mounting the bill for this 35th anniversary of HARD (Hayward Athletic Recreational Dept.). Howie Klein promises the smell of musty jockstraps will inspire the bands to new heights. (*Hayward Community Center, May 5, 8:00, \$3*)

SHAKE'N'STREET, JIM CARROL: The top of the bill belongs to a French heavy metal band who will do this one concert, after finishing recording an lp here with Sandy Perleman. Carrol could steal the show. The noted author, called "an American Rimbaud" by Patti Smith and singled out for his vision of "Youthful crime and streetplay" by William Burroughs, is due to record for Rolling Stones Records, Keith producing, after this sole SF gig. (*Mabuhay Gardens, May 6, 11:00, \$3*)

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Tales of Tessi Tura

Spring Opera Maledizione

by George Heymont

The curse lives on! Each season Spring Opera Theatre kicks off with a traditional work. Opening night is usually executable; a real dog. The second production is inevitably one of those precious little jewels which happens once in a decade. This year was no different.

BATTERED VERDI

The first performance of Verdi's LA TRAVIATA was an abomination which reeked to

heaven above. The reason TRAVIATA is considered a warhorse of the operatic repertoire is that you have to clobber the damn thing to a bloody pulp before it won't work. But Barbara Karp won the Richard Nixon Award for abortive staging with ineptitude to spare. I don't mind when directors seek new interpretations, update a piece, or mess around with an old standard — it keeps Ponnelle steadily employed! But I do take offense when things happen onstage — sloppy



"What the hell kind of director would let me be upstaged by a dancing llama?" Leonard Frey complains to Raymond Manton about the sad state of the art in Peru during Offenbach's frothy LA PERICHOLE.

horrors — which would not pass for acceptable stagecraft in an amateur production.

The first act of TRAVIATA is packed to the gills with stage business. If that act becomes dull, there's trouble afoot. When the stage becomes painful to watch for the rest of the evening, the audience knows that the cast is up shit's creek without a paddle. That's what this TRAVIATA was like. The production design was a heinous miscalculation. No period could be nailed on the show; there were some pretty amazing clashes of history onstage. Nor was there a believable entrance or exit for the entire evening. In addition, an attempt to use a Commedia dell'Arte ballet for Act III miscarried with fetid results.

Imagine a soprano singing the first half of the "Ah fors e lui" knowing full well that the audience is watching the maid bus tables on the other side of the stage! Imagine not being able to feel an ounce of sympathy for Violetta for 3½ hours! Picture the poor woman unable to get her hands on her worry beads for the "Grand Dio" because she's kneeling in bed wearing a raincoat and hat in a delirious attempt to make it to church! That's bad!

The lone survivor of the cast was Joseph Shore, whose Germont showed a fine baritone voice with excellent phrasing. He is a talent to be watched. As for Ms. Karp's misguided staging: I have seen hospital bedpans whose contents showed a more profound understanding and humane sympathy for the work product in question.

EROTIC BRITTEN

The rest of the season, thank God, was superb. Benjamin Britten's DEATH IN VENICE proved to be an artistic triumph. The refusal of Venetian officials to acknowledge the presence of choleric plague took on eerie overtones in light of the nuclear accident at Three Mile Island. Ken Remo and Wayne Turnage led a cast which was stunning in its en-

semble work and versatility. Remo's performance as Gustav von Aschenbach is a tour de force (he is onstage for all but ten minutes of the opera). As Tadzio, Michael Langlois was tempting enough to suggest renaming the opera "Latent Chicken Hawk Bites The Dust."

Britten's fragile score grows more beautiful with each hearing. In the hands of director Robert Brewer and choreographer Margo Sappington, DEATH IN VENICE became the definitive example of contemporary opera as a vital statement of musical theater. Kudos to all involved!

HEAVY MUSGRAVE

Quite a different can of modern worms was unleashed with Thea Musgrave's MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS. Whereas Britten's remarkable use of the percussion section supports his singers with a lyric sweetness, Musgrave's turgid score churns away in the pit, leaving a feeling of a declamatory vocal line, often overpowered by heavy symphonic scoring. The semi-historical pageant onstage justifies most of the musical rumblings in the pit. The plot centers around a meaner and greedier bunch of pigs than the cast of THE LITTLE FOXES and MACBETH rolled together.

Using sets borrowed from the Virginia Opera Association and costumes from the Scottish Opera, David Farrar directed with a strong dramatic sweep, giving a keen sense of epic history. One could not help but sympathize with Mary as she tried to rule from a shaky throne, with friends and relatives grabbing for power at her every turn. Mary's initial policy of conciliation ("Would you boys just shut up and dance for a while?") quickly shattered as she faced treason, betrayal, rape, exile, and finally, life imprisonment.

Jake Gardner made a stunning debut as James Stewart (Mary's bastard brother). He met his death at the hands of a

magnificent basso (Francesco Soriano as Lord Gordon). In the title role, Claudia Cummings made a valiant attempt to surmount the score but was confronted with some thankless music to sing. Musgrave's choral moments are fine, but her turbulent writing made last year's production of Henze's ELEGY FOR YOUNG LOVERS sound as lyrical as a Rodgers & Hart show.

ZANY OFFENBACH

Rounding out the season with magnificent panache was a revival of Offenbach's LA PERICHOLE (saucily directed by Jack Eddleman). Leonard Frey returned as the lecherous Viceroy of Peru. His performance is pure top banana; trained in the grand old school of Phil Silvers and Groucho Marx. He was ably backed by Raymond Manton and Herb Foster, who milked every laugh imaginable. The show was paced with that special boozy zeal of Offenbachian nonsense; from Pam South's hilariously drunken wedding to Frey's priceless vaudeville turn when the Viceroy disguises himself as a jailer. David Eisler was a handsome, appealing Paquillo; a fine talent who grows better every season. The show boasted a new and lusty can-can, lots of tits and ass, and Frey's machine-gun comic delivery. With Jack Eddleman's clutzy ballet sequence leaving the audience helpless with laughter, PERICHOLE became the perfect romp and frolic for the tired businessman. But then again, how could one NOT like a show with two dancing llamas in the cast???

Castro Fair

The Sixth Annual Castro Street Fair will be accepting applications for booths and entertainment until June 1.

Contact Rick Slick, Box 14405, S.F., 94114, 626-5695, for more information.

Hayward Benefit for Children's Hospital

The Get-A-Way Disco Lounge, 21859 Mission Blvd., Hayward, known as the Royal Palace of Hayward, will present The Magical Investiture of Tony Valentine's King & Queen of Hearts of Oakland on Friday, May 11, at 7:00pm at the Hayward Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Blvd. Ceremonies will begin at 7:00pm with a ball to follow.

All proceeds — every dime, except for expenses — will be turned over to Oakland's Children's Hospital — the East Bay Children's Hospital who have become world renowned for their medical work with children.

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Film:

HAIR

A SENSUALIST'S PICNIC

Eight handsome black men, resplendent in olive-drab army officer's drag, sit sternly behind a table, viewing potential military inductees. Suddenly, and without warning, they break into a rousing paen to the finer points of white-boys-as-delicacy. With exaggerated white-tooth smiles, hand waving, and prissy cross-foot tapping, they look and sound for all the world like a martial version of The Temptations.

This is one of the finest and funniest moments in HAIR, a Milos Forman film that, for all its beads and bandanas, is very much a sort of organic WARRIORS. Both are visualist "cartoons," capricious celebrations of tribal youth that rarely heed traditional "restrictions" of plot, depth, or artistic focus. Because while HAIR readily captures the verve, swagger, and unflagging zest of the late 60's, it also retains their ambling lack of direction.

The movie, first and foremost, is a musical, and as such need be no more representational of a 60's reality than WEST SIDE STORY was of the 50's. But HAIR never overcomes the problem of translating a stage work to film (an especially thankless task here in light of the disjointed, unconnected nature of the original play). Writer Michael Weller weaves a unified, traditional boy-gets-girl story line so steeped in fantasy as to be totally excusable, rather than believable. Plot here serves as a vehicle for pranks and gallivanting most suggestive of a Vietnam-era M*A*S*H. Though charming in its own right, the tale often appears so contrived that it seems an excuse to kick off songs and introduce characters.

Further, as a musical, HAIR suffers from a largely uninteresting score and none-too-outstanding Twyla Tharp theatrics/choreography (press hoopla notwithstanding). Like the era it portrays, however, HAIR is a collection of moments, some of which partially galvanize: Tharp's acid-trip solo is breath-taking, but only in context; Ren Woods' "Aquarius" and Cheryl Barnes' "Easy To Be Hard" both dazzle, but the former due in part to dizzying photography, the latter to an excellent vocal dub.

John Savage stands out as Claude, the confused bumpkin who journeys from the fogged-in heartland (nice color symbolism here) to the variegated peoples and parks of New York City on his way to the Army. In light of the material, Savage's ardent portrayal bespeaks a touching mirth, conviction, and believability. Others, too, manage their share, in specific moments: Treat Williams, as a sort of hippie Hawkeye Pierce, creates knife-edge hippies vs. the rich confrontation tension that is subsequently released in a plate-smashing, fork-bending eye-popping tabletop romp;

eagle-sharp military commando Nick Ray orders the ultimate execution of rock and roll; blond beauty Don Dacus' is a loving lead-in to his "Hair" solo.

Finally, for all its wit, charm, sheen and gloss, HAIR lacks true depth; it fails to demand any more emotionally of the audience than a sort of visceral nostalgia. It is characterized by the same self-indulgence and ambling lack of direction that proved the bane of the 60's. The themes and sensibilities are no longer relevant in today's society, and the movie refuses to be either "documentary" or realistic about the true hippie experience. The movie never states — nor even implies — its case strongly enough; consequently, audience never feels any sort of catharsis beyond a feeling of doin' a bit o' psychedelics an' sittin' in the park



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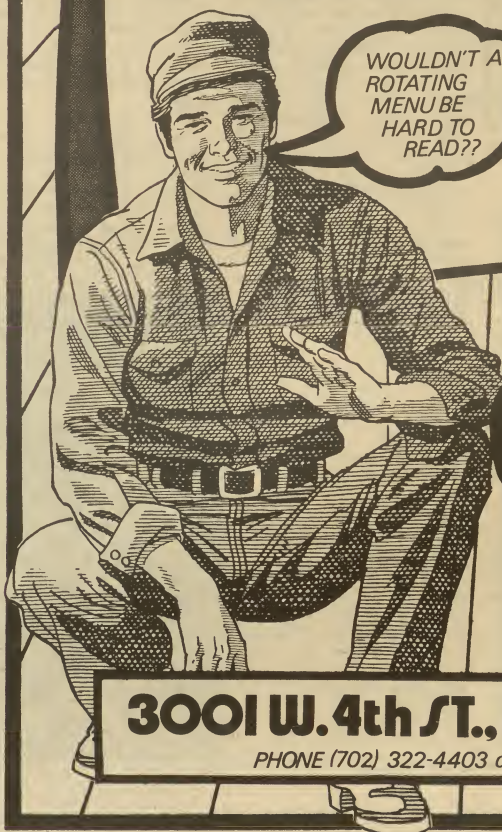
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(though a friend claimed seeing it was for him like reliving Bobby Kennedy's assassination).

That, too, is where WARRIORS and HAIR finally differ. After the former you feel mean and want to bash heads; the latter simply suggests doing loads of drugs and listening to music. Which means more to each of us now? You decide.

Dave Ford

Film:

Picnic at Hanging Rock

QUESTIONS WITHOUT REPLY

There is a strong undertow of sexual innuendo in Peter Weir's *PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK*, but it has little to do with the main element of the Hawthornian-type Gothic mystery that seemingly is the crux of the film. At the outset we see we are at a college for young ladies in Australia. It is Valentine's Day, 1900, and as the credits roll, the girls, all so innocent and virginal and gleaming in soft focus, gleefully pass Valentines to each other. It is a straight man's view of how schoolgirls might act with Sapphic suggestion riddled in each shot and gesture.



The young ladies at an Australian girls' school launch a Gothic mystery in *PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK*. They go on a picnic and never return.

Then we meet the headmistress and owner of Miss Appleyard's College For Young Ladies, played by actress Rachel Roberts. She's a bullish woman with the fortitude of Carrie Nation and the disposition of Sister George. The essence of Victorian primness and asexuality, Mrs. Appleyard is a monster. But today she is allowing her girls to have a picnic. Three girls and a spinsterish instructress are lost at the event without a trace. This is the essential mystery of the story — what happened to them. We never find out. But if that mysterious disappearance remains uncomfortably un-

solved, its effects on the girls, teachers, and a young man are made clear.

If Weir tries to transform the mystery into more poetic ambiguity, he at least hands us a side drama that is more tangible. One of the lost girls, Miranda, is so beautiful — like a Botticelli angel — that everybody seems to fixate on her ethereal dreamy quality. When she disappears, a young man, Michael, is the last to see her. He becomes obsessed with finding her. With the aid of a friendly servant, he explores the rock, even stays on the forbidding monolith overnight to no avail. But the servant finds one of the other girls the next day, still alive and relatively unharmed. When she gains consciousness, she adds to the mystery by not remembering anything. Upon recovery she returns to the school to say hello to her mates. Wearing a provocative red dress her mere presence causes the girls to go hysterical. There simply are no answers, just questions. The scandal the disappearance creates causes school enrollment to drop. Mrs. Appleyard turns to drink. One of the pupils who was infatuated with Miranda and to whom Mrs. Appleyard has been particularly mean kills herself. Mrs. Appleyard, upset at not only losing her school, her pupils and her sobriety, declares she can't stand being without Miss McGraw, the instructress gobbled up by the rock. She too ends her life.

Ah, you must think I've given away the whole story. I haven't. For you see there are no answers, only questions. Yet without a catharsis the movie still works. Weir has painted an impressionistic film imbued with fine performances, exceptional photography and understated direction. That one does not get truly bored by this slow-moving picture is remarkable, that one does not feel totally ripped off without a final resolution to the mystery is incredible, and that one can't figure out why this is so points out what a success *PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK* really is. After all, the point is there are no answers, only questions.

Michael Lasky

Stage:

RIVETING

Pavlo Hummel

The Eureka Theatre Company's production of David Rabe's *THE BASIC TRAINING OF PAVLO HUMMEL* is theater for which superlatives were invented. It is outstanding in every aspect. Keenly and crisply directed and superbly acted, this expertly crafted play drew cheers from the opening night audience.

THE BASIC TRAINING OF PAVLO HUMMEL is part of the trilogy of Vietnam era plays that brought David Rabe numerous awards and national attention. A devastating anti-war statement, the play opens with Pavlo's death from an exploding hand grenade and then retraces his development from a snivelling recruit to a strutting, macho, murdering soldier. Pavlo is accompanied on this retrospective by Ardell, a green-bereted "angel of death," who, by the end of the journey, has forced Pavlo to see through the glorified hype of his uniform and his duty to country, and to admit what he always knew deep inside himself: that war is shit. Without that realization, Pavlo's soul could never rest.

Richard E. T. White's direction is masterful. Using the theater as an arena of war with sets and audience interspersed, White, with the aid of movement director Arlyn Zones, clips the trainees through their drills with robotic precision, then turns around to evoke tenderness, disillusionment, frustration and endless other emotional nuances in the play's more personal moments. In the ensemble scenes, minor characters are sharply drawn; no one is lost in the khaki-colored shuffle.

Scott Paulin as Pavlo Hummel is astounding in an intensely demanding role. Whether possessed with militaristic rage or subdued by the pseudo-love of a Vietnamese whore, Paulin displays exceptional range and depth. I am hard pressed to imagine a finer

characterization.

Also outstanding in an admirable cast are D'Alan Moss as the sardonic Ardell, Curtis Whitener Sims as Sgt. Tower, Pavlo's drill instructor, and Paul Drake as Kress, a brainless, short-tempered trainee.

Stephen Weinstock has composed an eerie musical accompaniment to the play using various chimes and drums to evoke the haunting aura of an Oriental jungle hunt. It is a major contribution to the overall atmosphere of the production.

THE BASIC TRAINING OF PAVLO HUMMEL is scheduled to run only through May 12, with performances Thursdays through Sundays at 8:00pm. The Eureka Theatre is located at 16th and Market. For information and reservations call 863-7133. This is an exceptional theatrical performance. Don't miss it!

Mark Topkin

Jose's Spring Season

Jose Sarria, leading diva of the revived Black Cat Opera Company, officially opened his Spring Season of grand opera on April 16 with the first of six performances at Chez Jacques.

Jose will appear each Monday in cafe-theatre at 8:00pm, accompanied by Jim McGinnis on piano, in the following repertory of opera classics: *RIGOLETTO*, April 30; *MARTHA* (in English), May 7; *TOSCA*, May 14; *LA BOHEME*, May 21.

According to Jose's press agent, "In committing his operatic homicides, Jose successfully manages to garble the program notes, sing all major roles in whatever language comes to hand, and insults the audience between generous sprinklings of precariously placed high C's."

Jose will also star in Chez Jacques' special tribute to King Tutankhamun in June, when his birthday (King Tut's) will be celebrated with a gala presentation of *AIDA*.



Scott Paulin (L.) gives local theater-goers a brilliant performance in David Rabe's *THE BASIC TRAINING OF PAVLO HUMMEL*, now at the Eureka Theatre. Joshua Ziff (R.) plays Mickey.

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Stage: Alice in Wonderland

SOMETIMES BETTER FOR
ADULTS THAN KIDS

A new musical treatment of ALICE IN WONDERLAND spent last week in town under the auspices of ACT. As performed by the Prince Street Players (one of the nation's leading children's theater groups) the show was a thoroughly professional treat. It glowed with Lewis Carroll's magic wit, retaining that special innocent charm of the young imagination. The only drawback is that the show runs about 20 minutes too long for children. (Some thin patches, mostly involving repetitive choruses, could be trimmed.)

The versatile cast was headed by Patricia Ludd as Alice. Her encounters with the creatures of Wonderland were sparked by a trio of zanies: Mike Metzle, David Aaron and Bill Dance, who each had splendid solo turns. Dance's Mock Turtle Tango brought down the house, as did his whining mouse. Metzle's multi-limbed, bashful caterpillar was a lovable delight. David Aaron mugged shamelessly as a duck, a baby, and a dormouse.

Two excellent performances came from Betty Winsett as a pepper-crazed Duchess, and Marvin Feldman as the perpetually late and harried White Rabbit who guides Alice through Wonderland.

My one criticism is that the price scale was a bit steep for children (even little social-climbing buggers from Marin). But the Prince Street Players can be proud of a show which glowed with thorough professionalism and was a whiff of fresh air.

George Heymont

Stage: The Starting Five

BASKETS, BUT NO BALLS

Without a doubt, the best things about THE STARTING FIVE are Ken Kingsbury and Rif Hutton. Whether draped in locker room towels, or trussed in tightly tailored disco duds, they are a delight to behold. Unfortunately, their pretty presences are not enough to offset the shortcomings of this dreary, anemic, amateurish musical about the trials and tribulations of a high school basketball team. Frankly, THE STARTING FIVE is about as much fun as cruising the Sunset with your grandmother.

The trouble is with the book, which is witless and depthless; and with the music, which except for one or two numbers is tuneless and repetitious; and the lyrics, which are often below the moon/June level of quality; and the singing, which in some cases was downright embarrassing; and the acting,



"What am I doing in this tacky show?" asks Kevin Hall (#40) during one of the many tedious numbers in THE STARTING FIVE, a new basketball disco musical that cries "Foul!" from start to finish.

and the sound, and the sets . . . The reviewer to my right left at intermission. I stayed — ever the optimist — finding amusement in exchanging semi-suppressed giggles with the couple to my left. (Of course there were the ever-present bodies of Messrs. Hutton and Kingsbury, but even the Jaguar Bookstore gets tiresome after an hour or two.)

Pardon my tackiness, but the production has all the energy of a high school senior play written by some terribly clever students after reading "Musical Comedy Cliches I Have Known." As such, and delivered on the stage of some local suburban high school, it might merit a pat on the back and a passing grade on the report card. Masquerading, however, as a fully publicized professional production (meaning tickets from \$8 to \$10) at the Hippodrome in North Beach, it rates a big fat "F."

Mark Topkin

Film: The Toy GALLIC COMEDY

What would you do if one day a man came to your house and offered you considerably more than it would ever be worth and another \$200,000 if you would vacate the premises that instant? What would you do if you haven't had a job for 17 months and finally a good-paying solid position comes along for which you would have to compromise some personal dignity? And what would you do if you were asked to strip and walk around naked in front of your fellow workers or risk losing your job?

These are the precise questions asked in Francis Veber's THE TOY. While somewhat heavy-handed in parts, the diverting comedy has a satiric punch that no doubt works as well as it does because of the way the actors carry off the almost surrealistic script.

Francois Perrin (played by Pierre Richard) is overjoyed when after 17 months without a job he is given a reporter's post on a newspaper run by Pierre Rambal-Cochet (Michel Bouquet) one of France's rich-

comes friends with the boy who he sees is merely starved for love and attention, not material objects of which any in the world are his. Francois enlists Eric to demonstrate to his father that human beings can't be treated as pawns or objects. Eric's father is checkmated by Francois when Eric and Francois create a newspaper filled with the rich man's thoughtless deeds.

Faced with his ruthlessness in black and white, Rambal-Cochet goes to the newspaper office and asks his chief puppet to strip and walk around the office for all to see. When the man hesitantly begins undressing, he stops him and asks: "Tell me, who is the monster here — the person who asks you to strip or you, who will-

ingly does it?"

(Ah hah — the message, dear movie goers — greed and selfishness can succeed only when they are tolerated by their victims.)

Francois, by playing the game of toy the way he wants, overcomes Rambal-Cochet's manipulation. The boy, however, becomes attached to Francois, now more than a "toy" to him. He becomes everything his father is not.

Pierre Richard, last seen here in THE TALL BLOND MAN WITH ONE BLACK SHOE, another French comedy, handles his role with delicacy and understated wit which makes his character



Francis Veber's THE TOY, an unexpected human comedy, stars Pierre Richard (R.) as Francois Perrin who becomes 'The Human Toy' for Fabrice Greco, Eric Rambal-Cochet, the son of a wealthy French industrialist.

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seem realer in an impossible situation. We laugh for him, not at him.

The boy, Eric, is appropriately petulant, bratty, and obnoxious but brimming with an apparent vulnerability. Quite a remarkable achievement for a boy who had never acted and who, according to the movie biography, never plans to again. His name is Fabrice Greco, and he says that the movie left him with no less desire to become what he's always wanted to be: a mathematics teacher.

Pierre Rambal-Cochet is suitably cold and smug and has us all hating him by the picture's close. If you remember Louise Fletcher's Nurse Ratchet in ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST, Michel Bouquet's performance will seem as emotionlessly *deja vu*.

Francis Veber's direction is superb. He's taking an absurd script that is at times almost

frustratingly stultifying and put it to work. And if the message of the picture is given to us on a platter, at least Veber has made it a sterling silver one.

Michael Lasky

Stage: ACT's 'Hotel Paradiso' BUSY FUN

Turn of the century Georges Feydeau's bedroom farce has returned to the Geary for its second season.

A bedroom farce is characterized mainly by the opening and slamming of all too many bedroom doors and lots of reputations dashing in and out of closets for protection. Along the way there are scores of goosings, pettings, pantings and more near misses with forbidden fruit.

By the final curtain, all the foolish have escaped by the skin of their teeth and young love gets their elders off the hook.

Director Tom Moore has chosen to play the piece — very broad indeed. At times one felt one were watching old Charlie Chaplain/Keystone Kops films with sound. Or of more recent vintage, a Marx Brothers comedy or TV's first megastar Uncle Miltie's cavortings. Lots of shouting, lots of grimacing, lots of running. The audience loved it!

Two outstanding aspects of the production warrant praise: Once again ACT has "pee-ed" with a pair of gorgeous and ingenious sets. Much applause to Richard Seger, their creator.

Of the cast, Sydney Walker takes the cake. Walker played Mssr. Martin, the country lawyer and father of five giggling and jangling daughters — who unwittingly gums up everyone's well-planned lays and who stutters obscenities when it rains.

HOTEL PARADISO is an evening easy on playgoers. It gives more than it demands.

Paul-Francis Hartmann



Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo to appear at the College of Marin.

dero de Monte Carlo (the outrageously imaginative "ballerinas," an eleven-member all-male troupe) will perform their own unusual versions of the great ballet classics at the Marin Veterans' Auditorium, San Rafael. This event is sponsored by College of Marin. Tickets are available through the Center Box Office (472-3500), the College Box Office (485-9385), both open weekdays, and at the door.

Civic Light Opera

To accommodate the theatergoing public, the San Francisco Civic Light Opera box office has begun selling season subscription tickets, April 23, at the Orpheum Theater, 8th and Market Streets.

Subscription tickets can also be charged by phone — by telephoning 552-4002 and using VISA or Mastercharge.

Fair is featuring local craftspeople and performers. Merl Saunders, Jumpstreet, Bobby Kent with Rubin Burke and their Gospel Choir and many others will entertain while local and statewide craftspeople peddle their goods.

The fair was a huge success last year, with over 50,000 people showing up. This year, in an effort to represent the various talent in the community, the entertainment will include jazz, country, rock and many acoustic musical acts, as well as bellydancers, mimes, comedians, and other performers.

The fair will be held on Haight Street from Masonic to Stanyan on Sunday, May 6, from 11:00am to 6:00pm.

'Queer' Charge Worth \$3 Million?

LOS ANGELES

When actor Richard Doughty testified about his sexual relations with Michele Marvin, he could not project that she would later tell the press, "I never saw him make a pass at any girl." Doughty is now suing the former "common law wife" of actor Lee Marvin for \$3.3 million. He claims that the implication that he is Gay has damaged his career.

Doughty is also suing Michele Marvin's attorney, Robert Libott, and may have a better chance of collecting a possible settlement from him. When the judge concluded the case, he awarded Michele \$104,000, of which it is estimated she will receive \$60,000 after legal fees.

The self-announced part-time lover denies that he is a homosexual and called attention to the fact that he was "honorably discharged" from the Peace Corps.

Haight Street Fair

"Arts, crafts, food, music, and dancing in the streets. . ." The second annual Haight Ashbury Community Street



An unexpected guest (Sydney Walker (C.)) arrives most inauspiciously in ACT's HOTEL PARADISO while Raye Birk tries to escape his wife Jill Tanner. A fun evening!

Theatre Rhinceros' "MALE RITES" Opens

Theatre Rhinceros will open MALE RITES on May 10. MALE RITES is an evening of two Gay one act plays. The plays are C.D. Arnold's "Downtown Local" directed by Al Fraticelli and Cal Yeoman's "Richmond Jim" directed by Guy Bishop. MALE RITES will run Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm at the Goodman Building.

For reservations or information about either production, call Theatre Rhinceros at 626-1921 from Noon to 6:00pm.

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Film:

Fassbinder's DESPAIR and EFFIE BRIEST

By Ray P. Comeau

Based on Vladimir Nabokov's novel, with screenplay by Tom Stoppard, and starring Dirk Bogarde, *DESPAIR* is easily Germany's bisexual superdirector Rainer Werner Fassbinder's best effort to date.

The story, reinforced as it is with Stoppard's catch-all comedic dialogue, concerns the gradual dissolution into dissociation of Hermann, a Russian emigre to pre-World War II Berlin. The splitting of his personality takes various forms, the most involved being his choice to concoct a murder of himself to collect insurance. Well, not "himself," really — a double. Unfortunately, Hermann, whose reality sense is already too far unravelled, chooses as his other self (and victim) a man who resembles himself not in the least!

Such is the substance of the schizoid subject matter. But the plot is the least of it. The real fascination is what Stoppard, Fassbinder and (last but far from least) Bogarde do with such meretricious material.

Stoppard, for example, assaults us constantly with his warped acid sense of humor (you have to literally be a pervert to really appreciate it and, fortunately, I am). From the variety of the actors' inflections on the repetition of the description of a milkshake as a "goggle-moggle" to the variety

of play on names of political parties (Hermann decides he's a "yellow belly") to the twist on Hamlet in Hermann's comment after sampling a batch of his factory's chocolates: "Too bitter or not bitter enough, that is the problem!" — the words jump, spin and crackle.

Likewise Fassbinder's camerawork. Color rich as luscious oil painting, movement threading to action with absolute perfection, it is exquisite. It is also precious. Too much so, as he pulls out every filmmaking gimmick in the book, and then some.

To support the main through-line of Hermann's rapid decline into duality of self, Fassbinder's camera finds an overabundance of glass — reflections in glass — mirrors, windows, picture frames, glass doors, glass-enclosed offices, glasses, fancied fun house mirror maze — My God, when will

Germany's bisexual superdirector Rainer Werner Fassbinder offers a brilliantine and a bomb.

it end? It doesn't. He drags it out again and again: self and illusion of self constantly reverberating. Grinding it in to excess, Fassbinder even has Hermann kissing his wife through glass. Precious.

Images and symbols of other kinds too numerous to list are also employed and repeated

and repeated to the point where those who are not blind to such things either retch or begin to find it funny (or both). The point becomes clear: Fassbinder's trying to drive us crazy!

But some of it is quite grand. For example, juxtaposing sounds behind the dialogue and action — violin and hammer pounding, radio opera and clock ticking, or the water dripping image that begins the film and recurs near the end. Some of these effects are . . . well, quite effective.

The most brilliant and rewarding aspect of *DESPAIR*, however, is Bogarde. As Hermann, he shows a grasp of ironic comic subtlety which is both majestic and monstrous. Hermann, additionally, takes on the value of searing pathos that could not possibly be achieved by a less skilled actor. In several key moments, Bogarde drops his role completely and shows us the tragic side of Hermann's mental disturbance in shattering relief. Towards the end of the film, with Bogarde looking at the camera and saying: "How childish. We are making a film.

That's the film — all two hours and twenty minutes of it. Like Effie at the end, it begs burying.

Marilyn Tried to Make Monty

"Marilyn Monroe Confidential," a Simon & Schuster book due in May, relates how actress Marilyn Monroe attempted to have a sexual encounter with the Gay actor Montgomery Clift. It relates that Monroe rejected the rumors that Clift was homosexual, stating, "He could have any girl in the world."

One day, the book reveals, Monroe set a time to be alone with Clift. She had her hair and nails done and picked out a sexy outfit of skin-tight white pants and blouse. She tried everything to "get" him — including liquor, caviar, and placing her head in his lap.

Clift finally sighed, slapped her on the rump, and said, "You've got the most incredible ass" and pecked her on the cheek. With this he was gone.

Earnest Players Auditions

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David Hatch Walker and dancers of the Asaka Walker Dance Company premiere *VISIONS* (inspired by the coming of age ceremonies and rituals of the American Indians).

I'm a film actor. I'm coming out . . . "we almost believe and certainly hope that he will in fact step out off the screen and leave poor, frazzled Hermann behind. Then we realize it is Hermann himself speaking. The frame freezes with Bogarde's tear-filled eyes upon us. We are pulled in and hugged tight in a split second of total dissociation of self.

Though it's definitely Bogarde's film, he is ably supported by a strong cast with Andrea Ferreol particularly good as Lydia, Hermann's unfaithful little-girlish wife of buxom proportions and healthy sexual appetite. The character will win no huzzahs from the feminist sector, but as an acting accomplishment, Ms. Ferreol's playing is the perfect gooeey counterpoint to Bogarde's soft-centered Hermann.

I'm not yet a Fassbinder fan. Certainly I have reservations about *DESPAIR*. It is, however, a fascinating study. In a world too full of the mundane, it stands out as a cohesive exploration of a disturbing mental condition. Besides that, it's a lot of fun.

DESPAIR is now playing at the Lumiere Theater, California at Polk. Leave yourself behind and take it in.

★ ★ ★

On the other side of the looking glass, Fassbinder's *EFFIE BRIEST* has already played out its limited run and left town. That's merciful. Only a devout masochist could possibly appreciate this plodding and incredibly dull treatment of this 19th Century German tome on marital morality. "All that is petty and cruel," the heroine drifts at one point.

On The Beat

Vinyl on Trial

by Adam Block

- 5 - *Ala Glory*
- 4 - *This Side of Paradise*
- 3 - *Worthy Work*
- 2 - *Hard Core Fans Only*
- 1 - *Crime Against Vinyl*

MINUTE BY MINUTE, Doobie Bros. (Warner Bros.)

Since Tom Johnston's departure, this team has forsaken the bright rock sound of "Listen To The Music" for an ever more dazed funk approach spearheaded by former Steely Dan keyboard man Michael McDonald. McDonald's blue-eyed soul falsetto makes me vaguely squeamish, and despite some inspired work on "Minute By Minute" and "What A Fool Believes" the overall is sodden. Doobie original Pat Simmons contributes three cuts, including a completely unlikely bluegrass jam that goes nowhere. Guitar whiz Skunk Baxter burns once on a half-baked tune called "Don't Stop to Watch the Wheels Turn." Could someone please put a match under this flatulence?

RATING: 3-

OUTLANDOS D'AMOUR, The Police (A&M)

"Roxanne," that quirky reggae about pining your lover, sung in a Mickey Mouse falsetto, has launched this UK trio onto the AM airwaves. The formula is used on only three of this lp's 10 cuts, thankfully. A reggae band these geezers ain't. Cascading harmonies and crisp arrangements favor their work, but most of side two, the club-footed "Born in the Fifties," a silly Pythonesque monologue about an inflatable lover, and the endless pseudo Jamaican "Masoka Tango," prove woefully weak. For the rest, though the rhythms are often stiff and some cuts overlong, there's enough

punch and fire in the delivery to mark this a welcome debut.

RATING: 3+

THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING DICKIES, The Dickies (A&M)

One of the stupidest bands in punkdom, not to be confused with D-U-M as in the Ramones. This witless hyperactive team



METHENY: Metheny's solo disc — a masterpiece.

feature somebody's idea of punk-bubblegum. The record is #27 in the UK charts, and you may have heard the inspired rendition of "Eve of Destruction." I guess in England they're figured for a political band. The disc is yellow. The music is drek. Recommended for terminal pop addicts.

RATING: 1

DISLODGED DURING SHIPMENT, Tin Huey (Warner Bros.)

Another wacky team from spud-central, Akron, Ohio, which spawned Devo. Both share a dada warp on the triumph of machine over man, but Huey sport a lighter touch; less severe, sparse and stylized than Devo. These gents are

prone to marvelous jazz-inflected breaks; recalling the lyrical side of Frank Zappa, and unlikely meetings of Steely Dan and Cheap Trick, with occasional whiffs of Ornette Coleman and Kurt Weill. The inventive melange works best on Side Two — from the ode to the assembly line, "Hump Day," through "Pink Berets," to the impenetrable but hilarious "Puppet Wires." Side One opens with a tamely faithful cover of R. Wyatt's version of "I'm A Believer," then to a quartet of originals which founder — cute to heavy-handed. A less startling debut than Devo's but well worth finding.

RATING: 4



OREGON — stratospheric talents at the Great American Music Hall.

on in their black tuxes.

The second half of the program introduced the new jazz band, VARSITY DRAG, in some fabulous Glenn Miller selections. MEN ABOUT TOWN, an off-shoot of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, made their debut with a tongue-in-cheek rendition of some Broadway songs from the 50's. The jazz band has only been rehearsing for two months, but pulled off some fine moments. Jon Sims, director of all band enterprises, seemed more relaxed while conducting the jazz band; I think his heart lies in the music of the 30's.

The program, including sing-alongs for "San Francisco" and "If My Friends Could See Me Now," was one of those evenings of exuberant fun, underlined with the love and pride of a favorite community project. Don't miss the next concert.

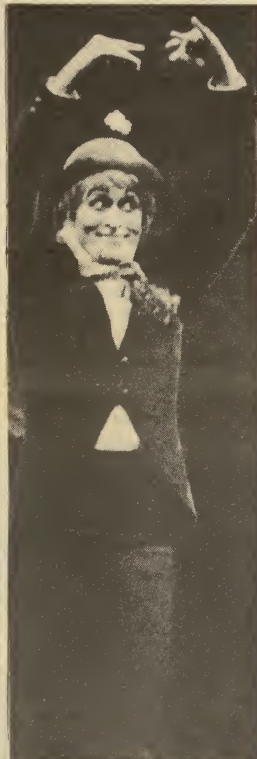
George Heymont

Disco 'Liberated'

BOULDER, Colorado

When the management of The Monkey Bar, a local disco, halted same-sex partners from dancing recently local activists organized to protest.

More than 200 Lesbians, Gay men and supportive non-Gays "liberated" the disco by entering on a Thursday night and dancing same-sex style. When the owners realized what was happening, they began to turn away at the door those that did not have opposite-sex partners.



As the adorably dumb Alain, John McFall in San Francisco Ballet's production of LA FILLE MAL GARDEE.

RATING: 5

Concert: Gay Freedom Day Bands and Chorus

The SUPERBAND CONCERT sponsored by the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps was a hot event. The audience was certainly primed for the evening. It was the most unanimous expression of love since the services for Harvey Milk at the Opera House. The first half of the program scored strongly with Joe Poltrone in costume as Superman, twirling, flying, and dazzling the audience as the band played

Seattle Court Gifts Churches

SEATTLE

The Imperial Court of this city has donated \$1,000 to the Church Council of Greater Seattle. Gay Emperor Larry Boag praised the council, stating, "You supported us when we needed it, now it's time to support you."

Boag's reference was the council's public support for the campaign to defeat Initiative 13 in November. The measure would have voided Seattle's protective ordinances that give legal equality in jobs and housing for homosexuals. The council also held a public rally attended by hundreds — against 13 — just before the election.

The church group has received considerable criticism for its position on #13 and other controversial human rights issues, it was reported in *Seattle Gay News*. Its income has suffered as more conservative members have withdrawn from the council.

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Dance: SF Ballet Turns for Laughs "A LOT HARDER THAN IT LOOKS"

SURPRISE! The ballerina stumbles, slides down to the floor and dusts herself off with a sardonic snicker. Looks funny, don't it? It probably took long hours of rehearsal to perfect the timing and effect. The final product must make the audience think it was the easiest thing in the world to do, and at the same time protect the dancers from injuries.

Ballet is one of the most physically demanding of the arts. While most abstract or historic ballets allow a performer to hide within the shell of the stage's "fourth wall," comic ballet strips away that security blanket. Instead, the dancer must communicate directly, and quickly, with the audience while mastering some rapid and dangerous movements. Often he must look as if he were caught unawares, or as if he were trying something out for the first time in his life.

Lew Christensen's new work **SCARLATTI PORTFOLIO** relied on traditional Commedia dell'Arte characters to gain its comic momentum. The rich, ugly widow, the dirty old man, Harlequin, Columbine and their friends have been around for so long that the choreographer is guaranteed a conditioned response from the audience. From thereon, he can embellish to his heart's content. Christensen's stroke of genius came in the form of a solo variation for David McNaughton and an itinerant hula hoop with a mind of its own. It is a moment of comic brilliance, physically demanding, and pulled off with McNaughton's toothy, "Aw shucks" smile making it seem like the easiest thing to do in the world. The rest of the ballet depended a great deal on comic mime, which did not always rest well with Scarlatti's music. The piece is a frothy way to round off a ballet program, but I think it is a bit slight and airy; a pleasant trifle.

Christensen's earlier work, **CON AMORE**, is a more solidly laid out ballet. It benefits handsomely from the sparkling inventions of Rossini's overtures to **LA GAZZA LADRA**, **IL SIGNOR BRUSCHINO** and **LA SCALA DE SETA**. Each is a bubbling gem. The use of the Rossini crescendo allows a choreographer to build repeat visual gags which climax as the score grows in momentum and repetition. The double set of stories: the thief invading an Amazon camp only to find some pretty butch opposition; and a lady with too many admirers tucked away in her bedroom, unravels on the stage with hilarious effect. It is all done simply, cleanly, and with Rossini's music racing the plot along with tongue-in-cheek drollery. John McFall once again triumphed as the thief who finds some pretty heavy-duty ladies coming on to him.

McFall's comic brilliance got a workout in the company's revival of **LA FILLE MAL**

GARDEE. FILLE is the grandmother of comic ballets. From the minute it opens with a group of dancing roosters, you know the evening is going to be a cackle! McFall's clutzy, shy characterization of the idiot nephew, Alain is precious. His work is hysterical and manages to look effortless. He glows with an idiotic delight which crosses the footlights and makes the audience adore him. Whether chasing his beloved umbrella, or destroying the grander attitudes of ballet, he is a marvelously funny submental fool onstage.

FILLE also contains one of the oldest and juiciest drag roles in all of ballet. Vane Vest

had a blast as the Widow Simone, camping and mugging hilariously. His performance was much looser than last year, and his own delight at the end of the Widow's infamous clog dance brought down the house. This role allows him far more leeway in joking with the audience than he had as the ugly bride in **SCARLATTI PORTFOLIO**. He made the most of the moment!

As the young lovers, Diana Weber and David McNaughton were technically brilliant, although Weber tends to be a bit cold. McNaughton continues to grow as a dancer by astonishing leaps and bounds. At this point in his life he shows the same kind of exciting potential seen in the young Edward Villela. One can see it being constantly polished in successive performances.

George Heymont



"I thought I was supposed to do the partnering here!" McFall gets a surprise from some tough Amazons in Lew Christensen's **CON AMORE**



THE HARVEY MILK UNITED FUND

Harvey Milk knew the power of ideas and dreams.

He dreamed of the day when gay people would be treated as equal and important members of society.

He envisioned a government that opened new opportunities to everyone who had talents to contribute. He sought to build a coalition of people—racial and ethnic minorities, gay people, women, the elderly, the disabled—who had been excluded from participating in the decisions that affected their lives.

His election as one of the nation's first openly gay officials—and its most visible one—symbolized freedom to millions of lesbians and gay men.

By his hard work, he showed America that gay people make important contributions to our society.

His courage and sense of justice shook the government and reminded it of its responsibilities to those who had been pushed out or left out of the system.

But, just as Harvey's life demonstrated how far we had come, his assassination has shown us how far we have yet to go.

The Harvey Milk United Fund was established by Harvey's friends after his death to continue his work and make his ideas happen.

A non-profit corporation, the Fund provides financial support to a wide range of projects that Harvey envisioned: senior nutrition programs, gay community centers, state and national gay rights legislation,

passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, neighborhood improvement programs, arts and cultural activities and many others.

Because Harvey felt a special commitment to minority groups, the Fund has set as a high priority the establishment of programs to help train and organize minorities in politics, government and business.

The Fund also sets aside a portion of its proceeds to help found a national charitable foundation focusing on the needs of lesbians and gay men. Harvey often spoke of the need for such an organization, which would support education and research programs, especially in the health field.

Harvey showed us how much one person could do for others in his or her lifetime.

He created a wealth of ideas and dreams, leaving them for us to realize, and teaching us how to create our own.

The Harvey Milk United Fund will make them happen. We hope you will join us by sending your contribution.

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Porn Corner —

Rose's Turn

by Karr

When was the last time, if ever, that you left a porno theater happy? Not happy because you just had hot sex in the backroom, and not happy because the movie had some good scenes or happy because you had a date afterwards, but happy because the movie was so damn good.

This elation is caused by *THE IDOL*, now showing at the Nob Hill Cinema. Rarely have the disparate elements of porno film meshed together in such perfect accord as in this Hand-in-Hand feature. The technical aspects leave nothing to be desired, with excellent color and camera work, plus professional editing, sumptuous sound and an overall sheen. The men in the film are not only attractive, but demonstrate effective acting abilities. The script is so carefully wrought, that coupled with such deft acting, this becomes the most believable porno I've seen.

And that's the big surprise: who would expect an unabashed Romance to be believable! Yet this story has so logical a growth that even a professional cynic would be won over. The audience is able to follow the hero's mental state, and move with him from doubt to acceptance and then to ultimate reveling in a Gay lifestyle.



The story is the oft-told tale of an All-American college athlete first encountering Gay sex. Mythological situations abound. Athletes in the shower room, the track team star with his coach, and an absolutely charming scene in which two cousins tentatively have sex for the first time. The look on the



frame that heightens their impact.

The movie begs direct com-

Sexual arousal and emotional fulfillment are successfully intertwined, a rare accomplishment in porno films.

star's face during his early encounters is priceless, as he really doesn't know whether or not he likes this male to male contact. Although he figures things out soon enough, his conversion is slow and hesitant enough, and convincingly played, to allow us to fully revel in his emotions.

I've never understood those numerous movies that wanted me to believe in the straightness of their characters. How ludicrous to see an obviously Gay boy rubbing his crotch over a *Playboy* fold-out and then expertly sucking off his buddy. The fantasy of straight boys having Gay sex is usually just silly. In *THE IDOL*, though, this fantasy works and is thoroughly believable, probably because it is the narrative basis of the plot, not just an unrelated incident.

The amount of sex is also unusual for a film with such a well-told tale: there's a lot. Of course, since this is the story of a boy coming out, it is not difficult to find chances for sex.

What is unusual, and satisfying, is the way the sex scenes move the story along organically. None of the couplings are incidental to the story line, providing the movie with a firm structure. This in turn gives the sex scenes an emotional

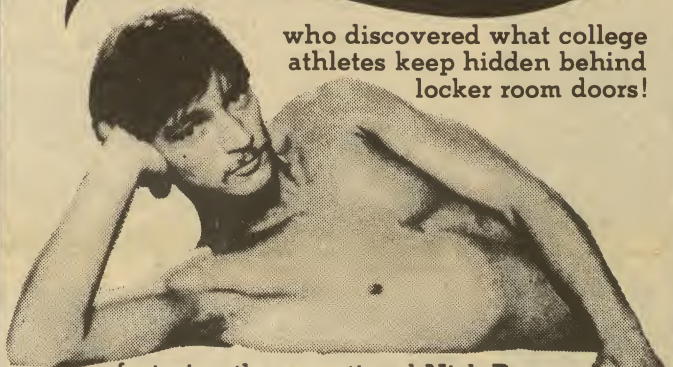
parison to another recent romance, *FORBIDDEN LETTERS*. But where this latter movie was couched in rather bleak, neurotic terms, *THE IDOL* bursts with live and positive feelings. The romance in *FORBIDDEN LETTERS* stemmed from a compulsive grabbing at companionship, a need to ward off loneliness. In *THE IDOL*, where the boys are psychologically healthy, the romance stems from flowering emotions.

All told then, *THE IDOL* is a movie to take great delight in, to see several times. In my last review I begged to be shown a rose or left alone. Memories of this movie won't leave me soon; this is more than a rose, it's the whole fuckin' Rose Bowl Parade.

Kevin Redding
is

The IDOL


who discovered what college
athletes keep hidden behind
locker room doors!



featuring the sensational Nick Rogers
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In which certain events are described.
Some are merry, some are quite serious,
some it is not possible to decide about.

Southern Scandals



Mac McLaughlin will vie against three other contestants at the Brig's Mr. Leather of San Francisco Contest on May 9. The winner will represent SF at Chicago's Gold Coast on May 19 for the Mr. Leather International title.

The current Mr. Leather Contest at the Brig (each Wednesday night at 11 PM) has turned everyone into a leather maven. You'd better get there early if you want to see the parade of pumped-up iron, pulchritude, and positive vibes. One more contest remains (Wed., May 2) before the finals on May 9. The winner will receive a round-trip all-expenses-paid trip to Chicago and represent Our Town in the big contest at Chicago's Gold Coast on the weekend of May 18-20. The winner will be Mr. San Francisco Leather. The winner in Chicago will be titled Mr. Leather International, win a \$5,000 motorcycle, \$1,000 in leather clothing and a myriad of publicity proclaiming his status. Round one of the extravaganza was won by Ken Willits, a strapping blond dude with a positive attitude. Last Wednesday, what appeared to be the epitome of a leather man, Mac McLaughlin, easily walked away with top honors. To quote one enthusiastic Folsomianiac last week, "The Brig is like a little dark corner of heaven." I'm sure you'll all agree with that statement.

★ ★ ★

The San Francisco Blue Boys, known hereabouts as the patricians of the uniform set, are going all out this Sunday, April 29, with their "Kick Ass 'N' Take Names" Party at Alfie's from 4 to 8 PM. There'll be an open bar PLUS enter-

tainment and the advance ducats are available at Alfie's. All American Boy and at the Trench for \$6.00. If you wait to pay at the door, it'll cost you \$7.00, but I know many a dude who'd pay more, just to look at the Blue Boys at play. Don't miss THIS one!

As a prelude to the weekend the SF Phoenix, another uniform club, will host a Spit 'N' Polish blast at the Plunge on Saturday, April 28, from 8 to 11 PM with an open bar, buffet and pins. If you attended their party at the Black & Blue last year, you will recall the handsome pins they gave out then. The price is \$6 in advance or \$7 at the door — CHECK IT OUT!

★ ★ ★

While it may be true that Assemblyman Willie Brown is the darling of Gay political activists, his name currently is akin to the Ayatollah in Iran amongst bar owners, Gay AND straight. It appears as though the illustrious Mr. Brown is the author of AB-819, which would impose third party liability to bar owners whose customers may get drunk, cause an accident or fatality and thus render the bar owner liable. Last year, SB-1645 ended that ridiculous law, but our boy Willie is trying to get it reinstated against anyone "who makes a profit" selling alcohol. The first hearing on this ridiculous bill is set for May 9 before the Assembly Judiciary Com-

mittee in Sacramento, and I'm taking bets that any "aware" bar owner will be there to oppose this measure.

★ ★ ★

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MARC(US)...

Bar tenders South of Market were puking all over the place last week upon hearing the news that one of their midst had been fired by the new "Management Consultant" at one of the bars because he was considered to be "stale." It is always to a bar's advantage to be progressive, have insight and be alert to trends and fads, but a "Management Consultant"? Reallllly! ... Despite the annual Drearython (Academy Awards) two weeks ago, the show did have its good moments, i.e., Donna Summer warbling with a red sequined mike (didja see THAT Jane?), and the slinky Kim Novak still a sizzling siren and looking just great. While Jane Fonda was less than humble in accepting her award, you gotta give her credit for her acting ability; I still think DEER HUNTER deserved Best Picture and you should ALL see it...

MULTIPLE SLUR-OSIS...

Whereas I am inclined to sound more soporific when reporting the feuds of dudes in our midst, the continuing saga of the "Jackie Starr/Star Pharmacy/Castro Straight Ladies Affair" has inspired me to

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Castro of Castro Club, Three Nine Six Eight Seventeenth St

Brechtian loftiness. While I must bluntly confess to being on Ms. Starr's side, it is no surprise to learn that jealousy is the key issue in this campaign to become #1 Fag Hag on Castro Street. It is one thing to be a favorite (straight) lady of many Gays; it is quite another to resort to bitchery, backstabbing and malicious innuendos in an effort to achieve such a dubious standing. Suffice it to say that no matter what the outcome of this can of worms, Ms. Starr will emerge as the champion — unscathed, shining and righteous — those very same qualities she naturally possesses and which made her the true Queen of Castro St. I can see no one on the horizon who will ever replace her — especially with the current clandestine tactics being employed. 'Nuff said? . . . That bacchanalian get-together last Saturday night in one of the back alleys of Folsom entitled "Hell" was reportedly one of the biggest pig-ins to date with much ado about SOMETHING and that something you'd NEVER write home to mother about. . .

WELCOME BACK ARENA
TO SOUTH OF MARKET
FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT
THE TRENCH

It was REAL nice to hear the news that the Gay Freedom Day Committee is allowing us sick leather, chain-wearing leather freaks to march with them on June 24; golly, they'll accept our greenback dona-

tions to pay for it, won't they? Prohibit leather dudes, indeed! Harrumph and double harrumph! . . . My favorite Czarlet, Ron Ross, may appear to be abrasive at times, but he does have a most interesting hobby in his outstanding collection of SF earthquake memorabilia; if you're into that epic happening, you'll not miss Ron's booth at the SF Antiques & Collectors' Show at the Cow Palace this Sat & Sun, April 28 & 29, from 10AM to 6PM. Ron will be there "live" (as opposed to dead), so why not check it out? . . . Wild horses couldn't drag it out of me, but to all of you who were atop Twin Peaks of an early hour last Sun. morning, you're absolutely right — that was "that" royal personage romping around without a stitch except for some white socks and playing tag with a Rodinesque type, equally nude; cute, real cute . . . If Lauren Bacall, Joan Fontaine and other luminaries of show biz can write biographies, why can't legendary drag queens? To put the response to that one in a positive light, comes now "FALSIES," a book touting never before exposure of the entertainment world your parents NEVER told you about and a cast of characters that will forever erase your qualms about the taboos of drag queen life — coming your way soon for \$9.95 — remember, it's called "FALSIES" and that title could easily apply to friends, Romans and ordinary countrymen. . .

Col. Clinque of the Brig was ranting and raving again on the

corner of 9th & Folsom while the populace wandered by. While the Colonel may be locked in the stronghold of lust, he did pontificate again against leather dudes wearing an overabundance of perfume (cologne), leather eyeliner, and people who send vicious anonymous letters. My dear Colonel, I stand in awww at your frankness and astute observations. But why vacillate from ruffian to soothsayer? Simply resort to your usual exclamation: "They can all EAT SHIT!"

Gary Menger and John Martin have launched the UP AND COMING Restaurant at 4248 18th. Prices are right and they promise a hearty meal . . . California Hall will be the scene for the Aries SuperDisco on Friday, April 27, from 9PM to 2AM. Donation is \$7.50 (Tickets: Castro Station, Oil Can Harry's, N'Touch, Urban Country).

MISTER MARCUS

Gay Graphics

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Menus
Business Cards
Flyers

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Printing Estimates



Everyone's talking about the sensational film at the Nob Hill — **THE IDOL**

Gay Health Services

The Sutter Medical Group has announced a new low-cost diagnosis and treatment program for venereal disease. The Sutter Medical Group is San Francisco's new private walk-in emergency and general medical facility.

Cost of the new VD treatment program ranges between \$27-\$36, including one culture, syphilis blood test, and medications. If additional cultures and/or testing is required

there will be an additional charge. The Sutter Medical Group offers these services in a private office personalized atmosphere with respect for the confidentiality of the patient-physician relationship.

The offices are at 1154 Sutter (between Polk and Larkin). Further information is available by calling 441-6930, and no appointment is necessary. The offices are open 7 days a week, 12 hours a day, 8:00am to 8:00pm, so that people can be seen after working hours. The group specializes in dealing with Gay men and Lesbians and is largely staffed by Gay people.

O'FARRELL BOOKS and NOVELTIES

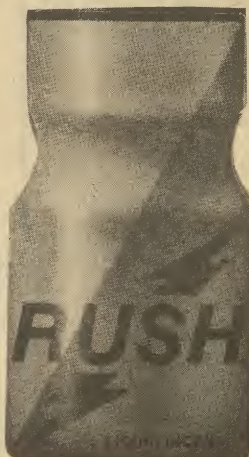
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SPECIAL SALE

Sweet Lips Sez

9th Hanging

by Dick Walters



1808 MARKET SAN FRANCISCO
DAILY 2pm-6am
863-4488

design and photography by Tony Green

Thank you, Bruce Watson, for the design for the posters, buttons, etc., for the 9th Hanging of Sweet Lips in Portland. Deadline for the trip is near, the 28th of this month. This is necessary, as all reservations have to be confirmed by May 1. Remember, only \$200 for the round trip, air and hotel. Leaving Gilmore's after a pre-Hanging Party on Thursday the 7th at 5:00pm. A 6:30 flight via Hughes Air West to Portland, and returning either Sunday or Monday evening. This includes transportation to the airport and hotel rooms. All king size rooms at the Paramount Heathman Hotel. There are many events planned, and I am sure you will have a "Ball" in Portland, so let me know by the 28th. 441-9494, days only!

Still looking? Try Bradley's at Cole and Carl. Lots of interesting people and some interesting vibes. They now have a classical guitar night.

Dick (Cristal) Nelson is now at Le Disque on Haight and doing a first-class job as Dick has always done. We miss you downtown, Cristal.



Gilmore's friendlier bartenders, Dick and Paul.

Kristal with a 'K' is still holding forth at Don Rogers' club Ginger's during the day and dispensing spirits of both kinds ... Hi, Kay!

Thank you, Joe Urban of Urban Country on Castro Street, for the lovely flowers you sent me the other day ... you are a love, contrary to what Bella says. Hope your ankle is better.

Next Tuesday the Tavern Guild meeting will be held at Partners at 1:00pm; so come on down and join in the fun. Knowing Hans, he shall probably have a huge buffet for all as he usually does. Guess everyone will go to the Rafter's after the meeting to see the new decor for the newly-named bar. Hi, Peter!

Bette Bonko, formerly of the Hide A Way on Eddy Street, can still be seen at the Kokpit (nights) on Turk Street.

The Golden Eagle on California and Front Streets serves some of the best luncheons in town; isn't that right, Mel Giles? Especially the hamburger sandwich which is a meal in itself.

Welcome back, Suzie of the Gangway. Nice to have you back on the plank. How did you like the welcome back party given for you by Gary and the staff?

Overheard at the Queen Mary's Pub: Reba's photographs do her an injustice ... they look like her.

Remember, Jose is now at Chez Jacques on Monday nights with Hazel McGinnis doing her operas???? Understand that Steve Suss of the Embers in Portland wants Jose and Hazel up there to open the newly remodeled Embers during the Hanging.

The Tavern Guild Picnic this year is being put together by Chris Granger of the Yacht Club. The date is Sunday, June 17 (Father's Day). Tickets are \$9 and will soon be available or contact Chris. For bus info, also contact him. The GSL Gilmore's team will play the CSL White Swallow team that day at the diamond on the picnic site to add to the fun and frivolity of the picnic. Free hot

dogs, hamburgers, and beer — plus soft drinks. There is a pool, dancing, etc., so I am sure you will all have a great time.

Understand that Greta Grass has a new title on the way ... Queen GRANDMOTHER of ALL California ... seems as if her son's wife is expecting shortly ... you didn't know Greta was that old — or did she marry young?

Rumor hazzit that Lottie Leese has a crush on a beautiful bartender at the Twin Peaks. No, it is not Bobby Pace, but Michael. Hope you are still wearing the Sweet Lips pin, Michael.

Memo to Jon Sims, Director of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps: Thank you and your musicians for a very enjoyable evening at the SuperBand Concert last Wednesday. You certainly have come a long way in one year, and you should know that the public is will you all the way. It is so nice to have a fun evening of great music and entertainment. We are looking forward to more concerts in the near future.

Wish to thank everyone for making Gilmore's First Anniversary Party such a great success. Thank you Lottie, Willis and Patrick for lots of canapes. Thank you, Scott Beach, for the singing with the banjo and piano ... what a blast! But a special thanks for Charlotte, Daryll, Phyllis and Peggy for opening the bar, Gilmore's, so that we could have a great place to drink, play and have fun and a damn good ball team; right, Victor?

A nice farewell party at the Answer in Redwood City on Sunday for two nice guys who are leaving for Denver. We wish you both lots of luck. The Answer is a hot, hot disco; so drop in and meet some interesting people; right, Lita and Peggy?

Menlo Park has one of the best decorated and finest restaurants around, called the British Bankers Club at 1090 El Camino Real. The atmosphere is something else — a former bank building with fabulous

adonis

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TRENCH WANTS YOU

British antiques.

Everyone's talking about THE IDOL now at the Nob Hill. They tell me it's a lovely film.

B.A.R. to celebrate the beginning of its 10th year at Orontes — Bob Ross will preside over his family of over 25 contributors and staff at a

"royal" banquet.

Reports that Jim Miller's 2nd Red Hunky Disco Party at 330 Grove throbbed until 4:00am. Don't forget the Double Eagle Court's ARIES SUPER-DISCO at California Hall on Friday, April 28; tickets, \$7.50!

Sweet Lips

Books

Prick Up Your Ears: The Biography of Joe Orton
by John Lahr
Alfred A. Knopf-1978-\$15.00

by Frank Howell

In 1975, during a delightful sampling of the latest fare on the London stage, I stumbled on a dramatic revival of a young English playwright named Joe Orton. We (my lover and I) were struck dumb by "Entertaining Mr. Sloane," a macabre tale of revenge and murder. Sloane is a young hustler, who is seduced by Kath, a dumpy, middle-aged matron of the lower classes. Her brother, Ed, is also attracted to Sloane. The brother and sister become rivals for his attention.

We loved the play immediately and ended up seeing another production of "Sloane" in San Francisco. We soon began reading about Orton's background and we also sampled more of his productions. The more I dug into Orton the more intrigued I became. His life span was short. In 1967, at age thirty-four, his highly disturbed lover, Kenneth Halliwell, beat him to death with a hammer as he slept. Halliwell then took his own life by swallowing pills. He wrote only three full length plays and a few television dramas. His fame lasted merely four years.

In 1975 some of his plays were revived, to much greater acclaim than when originally produced in the 1960's.

The critics were frequently outraged by Orton as he attacked the most sacred of cows: the church, sexual morality, and the political assumption that conventional wisdom is always best.

Orton toys with language and custom throughout his works:

JOYCE: Have you an appointment today?

MIKE: Yes, I'm to be at King's Cross Station at eleven. I'm meeting a man in the toilet.

JOYCE: You always go to such interesting places.

The other major productions, "Loot" and "What The Butler Saw," lie at the core of the controversy.

In "Loot," a body in a coffin is pulled about the stage as a way of hiding money. The glass eye in the corpse falls onto the floor and mayhem ensues.

In "What The Butler Saw," a psychiatrist runs wildly about the medical office discovering insanity in everyone he encounters. The whole idea of the play challenges the audience: who is really crazy in the world of today? Wicked and zany lines that turn our view of the world upside down fly thick and fast from the stage.

In 1967 Orton created an original screenplay for the Beatles, "Up Against It," which never saw the light of the cinematic image.

Our English rebel kept an intimate diary of his life, sexual and otherwise. Witness the following incident,

He has a white body. Not in good condition. Going to fat. Very good sex, though, surprisingly. The bed has springs which creaked. First time I've experienced that. He sucked my cock. Afterwards I fucked him. It was difficult to get in. He had a very tight arse. A Catholic upbringing, I expect...

During "What The Butler Saw," now considered Orton's enduring masterpiece, a controversy arose over the use of a phallic representation of the most intimate part of Sir Winston Churchill's anatomy. Joe had a curious dialogue about the censorship attempts by the Lord Chamberlain:

ORTON: What am I saying about Churchill though?

PRODUCER: You're saying he had a big prick.

ORTON: That isn't libel. I wouldn't sue anybody for saying I had a big prick. No man would. In fact, I might pay them to do that.

Orton literally pulled himself up by his literary bootstraps from a fairly poor family life. He rarely returned to his old neighborhood in later years. He had gone wild with boredom during those bleak years.

After unsuccessful attempts at acting, Orton drifted for several years before attempting to write lines he only wished to speak before. He met Ken Halliwell in 1951 and their volatile relations boiled until death parted them in a pool of blood and pills years later.

Joe thrived on public argument and did all he could to stimulate it. He loved to write letters to the British newspapers using the nom-de-plume, Edna Welthorpe, for the purpose of arousing attacks on his own creations. On one occasion dear old "Edna" sent the following letter:

Today's young playwrights take it upon themselves to flaunt their contempt for ordinary decent people. I hope that the ordinary decent people will shortly strike back!

John Lahr, son of the late comedian, Bert Lahr, delves into every significant corner of Orton's brief act on the stage of life. Lahr is the author of two novels, "The Autograph Hound" and "Hot To Trot." His biography of his famous father, "Notes On a Cowardly Lion," was published in 1969.

Joe Orton led the vanguard of radical playwrights in the England of the 1960's. He was openly Gay and felt no shame for his homosexual feelings.

It is a pity his lover failed to break free of the terrors of his own failures. He succeeded in depriving the "civilized" world of the liberating insights of a master student of the human heart.

Spartacus Gay Guide-1979
Box 3496, 1001 AG, Amsterdam,
Holland — \$15.00 (Send cashiers
check)

Travel time is here again and the Gay voyager will be wondering what lies beyond the blue horizon for him.

The Spartacus Guides have appeared since 1970, but last year, due to various difficulties, no guide was produced.

The new edition, with worldwide coverage, of course, offers over 8500 listings. The latest information was obtained in February, 1979.

John Stamford, the editor, informs us that a number of pirate editions have been dumped on the market. So purchase only the guide with the bare chested male and his cute companion with the net shirt.

Spartacus announces for the first time a guide for Lesbians — Gaia's Guide (order from 1 North End Road, London W 14, England - \$6.50).

Spartacus also offers a service where you can be introduced to Gays in the countries which you are planning to visit.

In 1977 my lover and I made extensive use of the Spartacus Guide on our trip to Asia. Without it our attempt to locate exotic attractions would have been rather difficult.

In Kyoto, Japan, for example, Spartacus led us to a delightful little bar, hardly larger than a walk-in closet, called "C'Est Bon." The local people there were friendly and helpful, and we met a warm

new Japanese friend who has corresponded with us faithfully ever since.

In Bangkok, our lavender map indicated we might enjoy an evening at another night spot known as "The Tulip," where we conversed with a disc jockey who had been educated in Boston.

Editor Stamford has provided elaborate codes and symbols to evaluate the Gay tourist meccas as to their safety and attractiveness.

When the plane takes off, be sure Spartacus goes with you!

BOOK NOTES

In the fall of this year an exciting series of historic reprints of outstanding Gay fiction and non-fiction will be published. The work will consist of 39 works in 43 volumes. The entire series is called *The Gay Experience*. The editor is Byrne R. S. Fone.

Many of these works have been suppressed or are long out of print. For example, we will now be able to savor *Oscar Wilde and Myself* by Lord Alfred Douglas, *The Secret History of the Court of Berlin* by Gabriel Riquetti Mirabeau, and also the writings of John Addington Symonds, Edward Carpenter, Magnus Hirschfeld and Henry George.

The fiction collection includes works by Charles Warren Stoddard, James M. Cain, Bayard Taylor and William Maxwell.

For complete information, write: AMS Press, 56 East 13th Street, New York, NY 10003.



CHUCK

WITH RIMLESS GLASSES"

PALM SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Marked one of the best beer busts I've attended so far this year. I look forward to this same motorcycle club's secone one!

Many of my "active" friends were there and made me "happy." I'm counting on their votes as GOLDEN SHOWER QUEEN in month's JUST LEARNED AWARDS ARE OFF! RDS.



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Sports

G.S.L. vs. Firemen

Mark Brown

FLAME GAME

The Gay Softball League will play the Fire Department softball team in the first annual "Flame Game" Saturday, June

23, as part of the Gay Freedom Week celebrations. G.S.L. Commissioner Tony Nemger has been able to procure Kezar Stadium for this first-ever all

Gay event with the firemen of our fair city.

The G.S.L. team will be composed of at least one member from each of the sixteen teams in the league. The players will be selected by the team managers. The flamboyant Irene was chosen to coach the team because of his "expertise."

As an added feature to the Flame Game, an all-star team from Los Angeles' Gay league will play the G.S.L. the same day.

GAY WORLD SERIES

The Third Annual Gay World Series will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, over the Labor Day holiday. At a recent meeting in Los Angeles, the 80/20 rule was again adopted. This rule means that a team roster must be at least 80% Gay. The Gay Softball League has no problem conforming to this rule as the league is indeed predominantly Gay. The Community Softball League, on the other hand, had to vote on the rule because of the straights in the league. Because of the disaster in New York last year, the C.S.L. has approved to abide by the 80/20 rule no matter who wins the championship — but it wasn't easy. Commissioner Paul Ruehl had to cast the deciding vote.

A full report on the happenings at the L.A. meeting will be reported by G.S.L. Commissioner Tony Nemger in the next issue of B.A.R.

Mark Brown

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GAY SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 28 Balboa Park, Diamond #1

10:30 Fickle Fox vs. All American Boy
12:00 Hearts Delight vs. Gilmore's
1:30 The Bunkhouse vs. San Jose
3:00 Cafe Flore vs. Nothing Special

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 Lang Field, Diamonds #1 & #2

1:00 The Vagabond vs. Alfie's — #1
Deluxe vs. The Rookies — #2
2:30 Urban Country vs. Fabulous Forties — #1
Phone Booth vs. Eagle Creek — #2

SATURDAY, MAY 5 Lang Field, Diamond #1

11:00 Hearts Delight vs. All American Boy
1:00 Fickle Fox vs. Cafe Flore
3:00 Vagabond vs. Deluxe

SUNDAY, MAY 6 Balboa Park, Diamonds #1 & #2

1:00 The Bunkhouse vs. Gilmore's — #1
The Rookies vs. Urban Country — #2
2:30 Fabulous Forties vs. Phone Booth — #1
Eagle Creek vs. Nothing Special — #2

In San Jose: Alfie's vs. San Jose

Gay Softball

by Mac

Deadline — just time for a quick rundown of scores this past weekend. Three teams started an upward climb — The Bunkhouse passed Hearts Delight 17-1, Eagle Creek manhandled The Rookies 17-4, and the Fabulous Forties lifted themselves out of their unlikely cellar position by defeating the Nothing Special (score unavailable).

Alfie's new cheerleading squad had to pack away for next week a lot of unused material, as The Deluxe blitzed the "baby-blue machine" 15-0; Urban Country bedecked in gardenias (the best-smelling team) is now sole leader in Division C.

The 1:00 games on Sunday were rained out (to be rescheduled, of course) but the San Jose Nuggets made their trip north worthwhile by edging the Vagabond 15-12.

The division line-ups:

DIVISION A

Cafe Flore	2-0
San Jose	2-0
Alfie's	2-1
Fabulous Forties	1-2
Phone Booth	0-1

DIVISION B

Deluxe	3-0
Gilmore's	1-0
All American Boy	1-1
The Bunkhouse	1-2
Fickle Fox	0-3
Hearts Delight	0-3

DIVISION C

Urban Country	3-0
The Vagabond	2-1
Rookies (This Side Up)	1-2

Eagle Creek Saloon	1-2
The Nothing Special	0-2

Salt peter Is A Myth

Salt peter (potassium nitrate) is a crystalline salt (KNO₃) that is a strong oxidizer, often used in making gunpowder and in preserving meat. Research reveals that it is not a deterrent to sexual activity.

The belief that salt peter usage halts sexual activity may have been encouraged by servicemen who were told they were being given "salt peter" and that it would produce the predictable results. The truth is that it was not given, but the thought of its presence discouraged sexual activity, which is what military officers wanted.

B.A.R. received this information from the local city VD clinic and a federal medical officer in answer to a reader's question.

Penis Reattached

PARIS

A 21-year-old man who had cut off his penis and testicles has had them reattached in a 12-hour operation. The patient can urinate, have an erection and ejaculate, although he is sterile, one of the operating doctors has announced.

The operation, believed to be the world's first, was performed at Henrimondor Hospital near Paris in a 12-hour surgical feat.

The patient had detached his genitals in what doctors described as "a violent schizophrenic crisis."

Have Sex: Lose Pounds

A health newsletter, *Environmental Nutrition*, recommends that a sexual encounter per day can result in a 125-300 calorie weight loss. A really vigorous encounter or multiple encounters can produce an even greater loss.

Kissing, depending on how much is put into it, can result in a 6-12 calorie loss. Healthy kisses, one per day, can result in a possible 9,855 calorie weight loss in a year.

B.A.R. Classifieds

FOR SALE

DOG TAGS

Taylor of SF now offers regulation Dog Tags, \$6.00 per set plus \$1.00 S&H chg. Space allowed 5 lines, 14 spaces per line. TSF, 768 Clementina, SF, CA 94103, or see the shop in the Brig E11

Stainless steel hofbrau table 22 feet long, 4 steam inserts, iced salad section, glass & tray rail. Priced to sell. Afternoons, 960 Bush St. or call 441-4333 E9

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for those wanting a man
"PLAYGIRL DISCOVERY"
DEREK 928-4255
Leading San Francisco Model/Escort

PEOPLE

Young athletic male seeks
tennis partner anytime. Call
Mark, 387-9759 E9

Wanted: Lover 21-40 yr prof
man, mature, sensitive, intelli-
gent, handsome & hung Latin
W/M with same qualities, non-
smoker, light drinker. Call 566-
9095 8PM or Sundays E11

Size small cot brief, underwear
fetish. 681 Ellis, #2828, SF,
CA 94109 E9

Join THE TOILET, a pvt. ph.
club. Far out scenes/trips/fan-
tasies: John (415) 826-8072 E9

ADD A NEW THRUST

to your life and learn the most
fascinating game! Bridge les-
sons for beginners in my home.
Jim Leuker, 664-4911 E9
Masculine, good-looking W/M
24 with hairy, muscular body.
Sk W/M in his 20's, gdlkg &
well-built for friend & work-out
buddy. Honest ad, honest re-
sponse. SF only. "George"
863-5921 E9

W/M, 60s, trim 6', big sensi-
tive nipples, loves tit play
w/ANY RACE. Box 285, 625
Post St., SF 94109 E9

Yng man, gdlkg, personable.
Room & board exch. light
duties. Pos. relationship with
gdlkg yng writer. Live in — 4
bdm house — Castro — write:
age, complete description,
interests, etc. to Mike Wayne,
PO Box 14522, SF, CA
94114. Incl pict if poss, phone,
ret address. E9

ASIAN-AMERICAN MATCHMAKING ARE YOU LONELY?

Are you tired of the
"cat and mouse chase"?
Discreet, professional, and
inexpensive service.
Call now 441-8162 E13

**Blow an attacker
away with a whistle.**

ROOMMATES

Male roommate between 25 &
35 wanted by same to share
nice large 2 bedroom-2 bath
apt in Belmont near Ralston
and 92; has deck, pool, cable
TV, carport. Must be employed
stable and clean. \$185 + 1/2
utils. 592-5881. Call Fred after
5:30 - anytime weekends E9

Mid-Peninsula 3 BR, 3 BA
furnished view hi-rise condo.
Empl. male, masc lkg to 35.
\$250 per mo. incl util. Bx 494,
Belmont 94002 E9

Shr condo in Alameda. Own
BR, gr, pking, gym, sauna, hot
tub, pool. \$225/mo. + 1/2 util.
Call 865-6826 btwn 6:30-9:00
E9

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A Gay Introduction Service
for the San Francisco Bay Area
Relationship Oriented
Ages 25-60. Private Interviews.
Discreet. Fifth Successful Year.
VISA & MASTERCARD Accepted

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The Matchmaker
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Gay W/M wants roommate
and lover, butch & trim, 21-30.
Sincere only call 568-2884.
Warren - East Bay E9

Large home to share with a
prof. guy, 41 - private room
and bath. Rent is \$190 + 1/2
util. I seek a stable male that
enjoys a real home with lots of
charm. I'm looking for an hon-
est guy that I can enjoy gd.
conversation with. I'm sensitive
- if sincere, call John at 751-
0240 after 6:00PM wkdays
ONLY - please call. E9

VICTORIAN FLAT

Own bdrm for \$188 + 1/2 util.
Hrdwd floor, lrg kit, dshwshr,
very sunny. Hayes Valley. M
25-35. Ref reqd. Darrell, 626-
9501 eves, 556-2200 day E9

GAY ROOMMATES!

A service for men & women.
2 page detailed form used.
470 Castro (at Mkt), 552-8868
Open 7 days a week. Gay
owned/staffed. E9



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EXPRESS**
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Hotel-Bathhouse
LOCKERS**

\$1 Thursdays 'til Midnight

COUPON SPECIAL

WORTH \$1.00 OFF
ON LOCKER OR
ROOM ANY DAY
BUT THURSDAY

EXPIRES 4/30/79 B

\$150 mo/\$100 dep. Room-mate needed to share 13 large rooms in sunny Victorian under renovation. Pvt bedroom, 2 kits, 2 baths, 2 floors. 900 blk Divisadero. Call Howard, 921-0845 E9

FOR RENT

COMMUNITY RENTALS

Great apts/flats/houses in Castro/Noe Valley areas + 100's in other City areas! \$150-\$1600 per month. We can save you time and frustration! Check us out with your friends — work of mouth is our best ad! 470 Castro (at Market). 552-9595

GAY OWNED/STAFFED!! E8

1 bdrm & studios, Gay bldg. near Polk St. \$150-\$180. Sundeck. Gym with steamroom & jacuzzi available. Refs. Call 928-7907 after 7pm & wknds. E10

VICTORIAN FLATS

THREE VICTORIAN FLATS AND COTTAGE

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Sunset House For Rent \$450 a month, 2 bedroom 681-0500 E9

For Lease: 18 unit apt bldg. Nets \$3,000/mo. 474-1721. E13

For Lease: 8,000 or 4,000 sq. ft. store front. 474-1721 E9

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Deluxe sleeping rooms, sauna, sundeck, 24-hour desk. New, modern and clean. From \$70 weekly or \$150 monthly. 621-9944 or 552-7100. CALL NOW! EB

\$495. 7 rm Queen Anne Victorian. Bath + 1/2, sinks in all bedrooms, 2 wood-burning fireplaces & forced air heat, new carpets, plumbing & drapes, dishwasher, sundeck & laundry. 626-0350. EB

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UP TO 5,000 sq. ft. for lease in prime Castro location. Exit long term lease available. Contact: Wm. Brown (415) 626-6657 B10

Dolores Heights 6 rm luxury Vict. flat. Pano view. 2-3 BR exc. cond, original woodwork, mod. kit., dishwshr, washr/dryer, deck. \$630. No pets. 824-2546 E9

235 Oak St. Clean, all-electric studio & one bedroom apts. Modern kitchens & baths. \$185-\$215. 474-3627 E10

\$350/mo. 2 bdrm apt. 1414 McAllister. See 10-5 Sat & Sun or call 285-0249 eves. E9

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419 Ivy St. San Francisco

863-6262 Weekdays Only, 10-5

STUDIO & 1-BR APT., \$150-\$175. Elec. Kit, Cpts, Renovated. Secure.

First & Last Month's Rent Required. No Deposits.

Hayes Valley Rentals

Unfurnished Flats & Apts.

\$225, 1-BR, 554 Hayes, entrance on Ivy St., wood flrs, w/w carpet in bedroom, all-elec. kitchen. Quiet bldg. No pets.

STORES FOR RENT OR LEASE:

515 Hayes, \$200
564 Hayes, \$175
601 Hayes, \$350
613 Laguna, \$300
615 Laguna, \$200

For Information on Above, Call:

863-6262 Weekdays Only, 10-5

Studios from \$225
1 Bdrm from \$235
Flats from \$450
Rooms from ... \$70 per week
Privately Owned No Fee
626-0350 EB

\$180-\$200. Opera Apt Studios. Remod charm. Pets. 145 Fell/Van Ness. Tony, mgr 621-3367 E10

Stores: Mint Hill, 1000-2000 sq. ft. Great potential, reasonable. 431-6625 1-5PM E11

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Mint Hill Studios

Luxurious Unfurnished

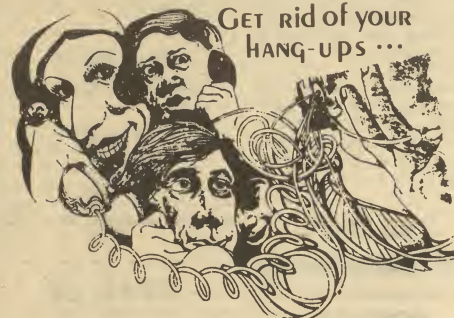
Walking distance to: Eagle Creek Saloon, Church Street Station, Rainbow Cattle Co., Scotty's Pub, The Mint, Burton's, Safeway, & at least 10 car/bus lines

Ask about 1 Mo. FREE Rent Low Move-in Costs

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may be the answer! 15 yrs. as regression specialist who cares Soul-Search, (415) 941-5910 E10

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OUTGROWN YOUR JOB? Perhaps it's time for professional consultation in matching your personal interests with new mid-career opportunities. GENTLE EAR career counseling services for Gay men & women: 864-8445, Ext. 614. By appointment only. E9

SOFT OR HARD

Expert floor refinishing. Reasonable rates. Call 552-9565 or 282-3128 E12

Bartender: Hire a good mixer for your next private party. Call Tom Collins 885-1062 E9

Decks & Nothing But Decks!

Photos of work. Free est. Von Meyer 415/285-2884 E16

Free Metasexual Exercises. Self-addr stamped env. to Strange de Jim, Dept. BA, P.O. Box 99076, SF 94109 E9

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CALIFORNIA HALL (POLK & TURK)

SPECIAL MOVIE FEATURES

DONATION: \$7.50

INFORMATION — 861-5019 — TICKETS

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